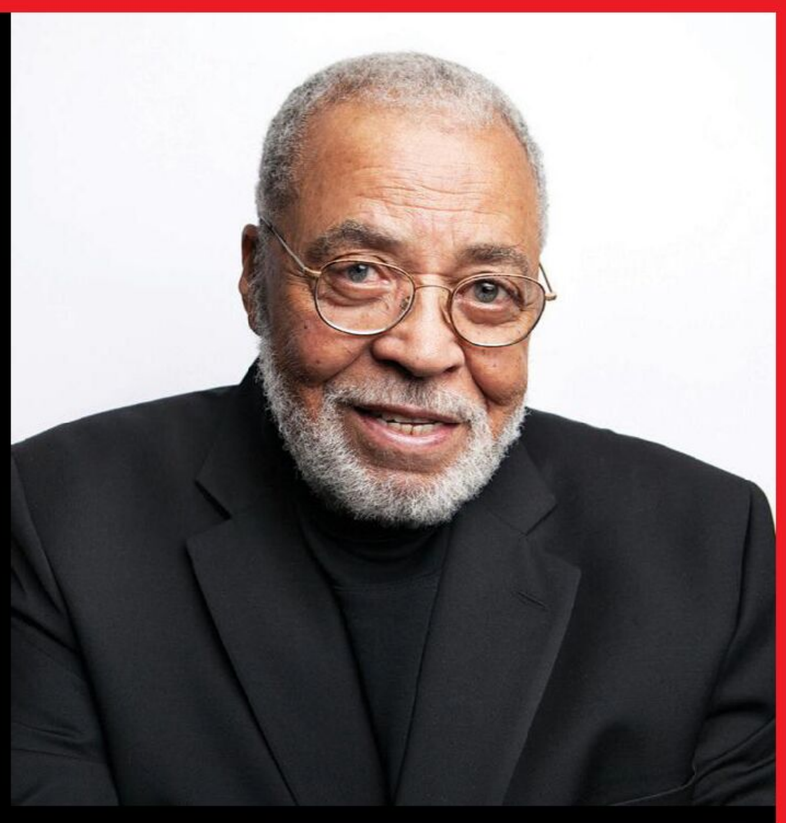
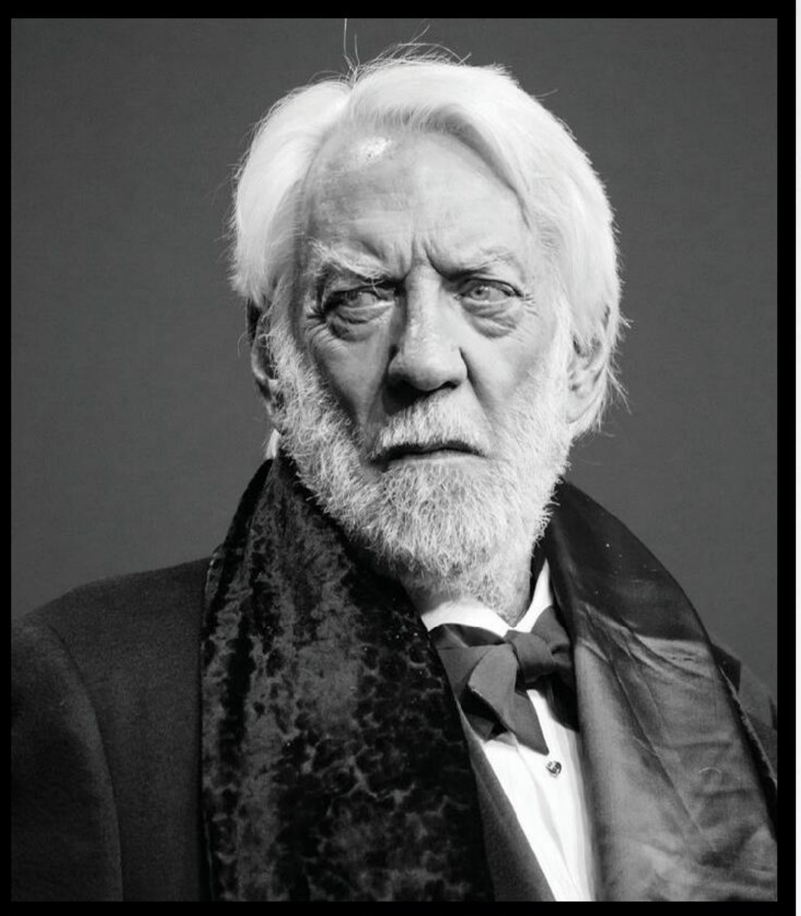
SPECIAL EDITION

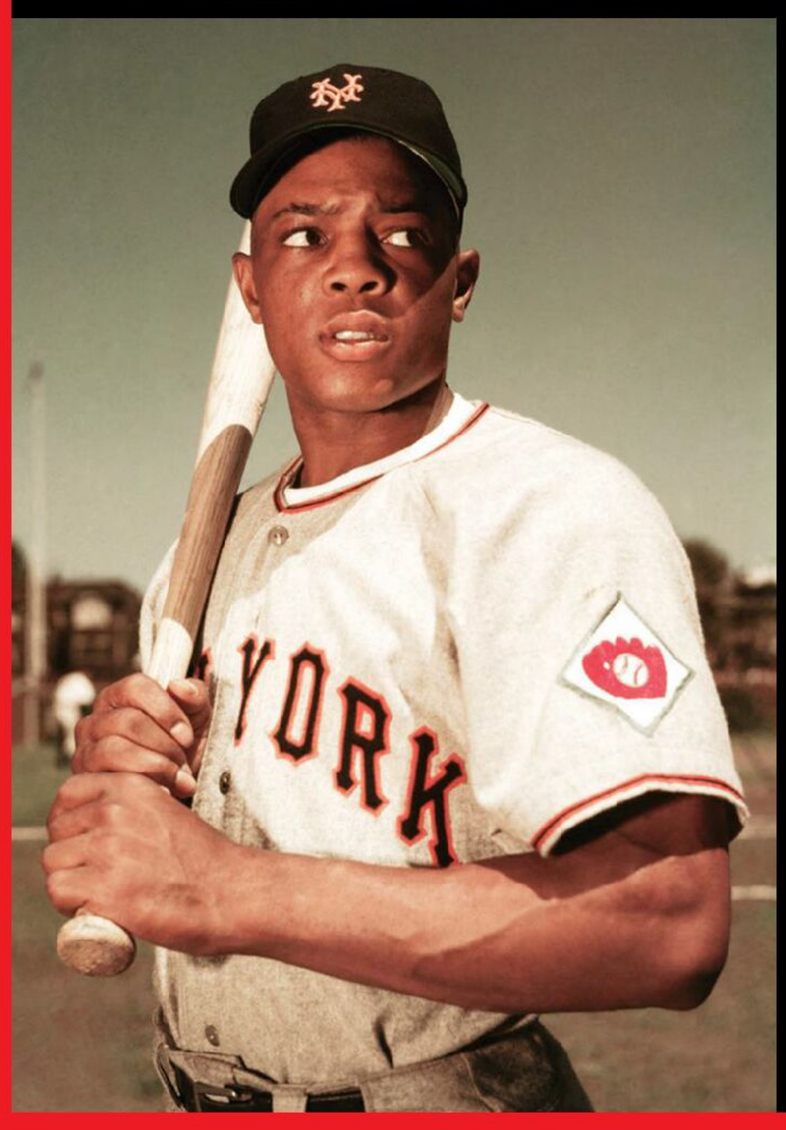
TIME

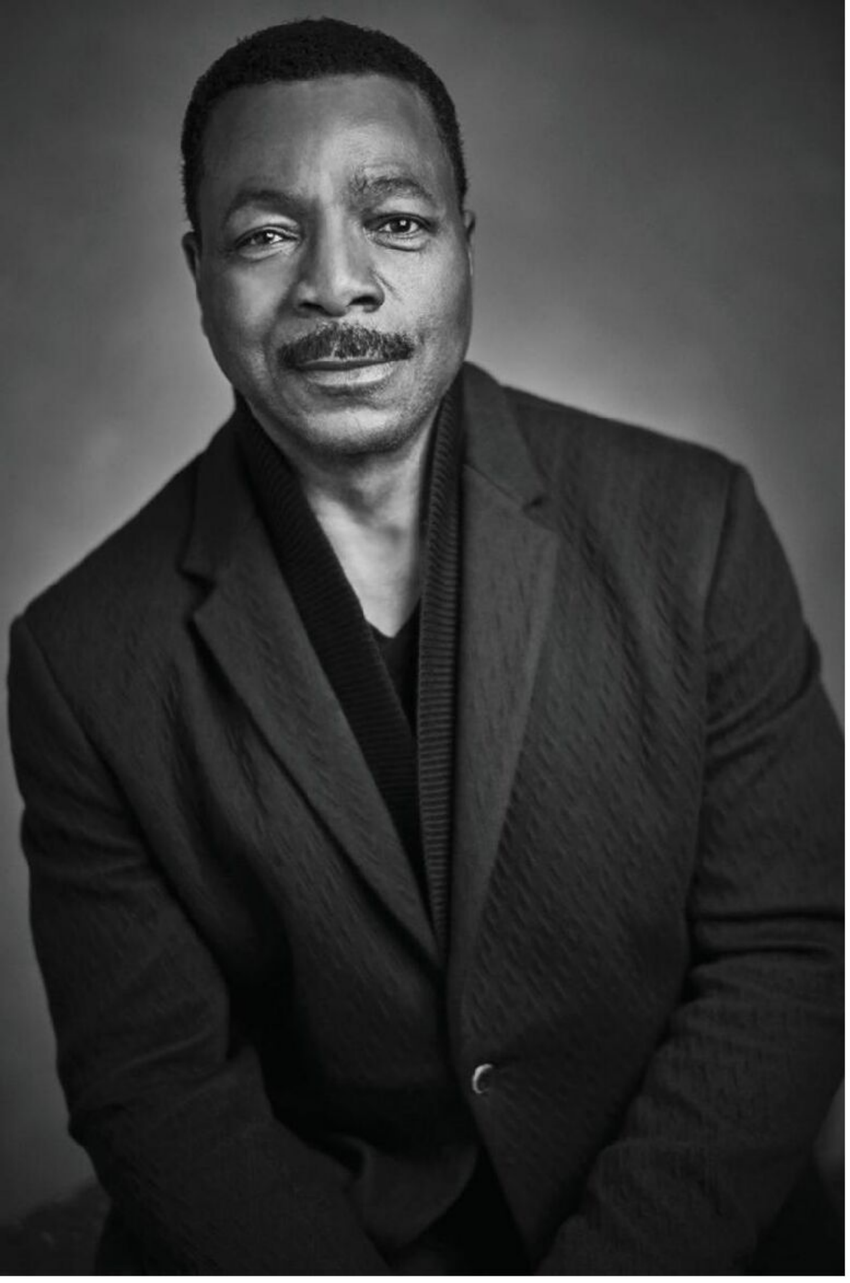
PEOPLE WE LOST

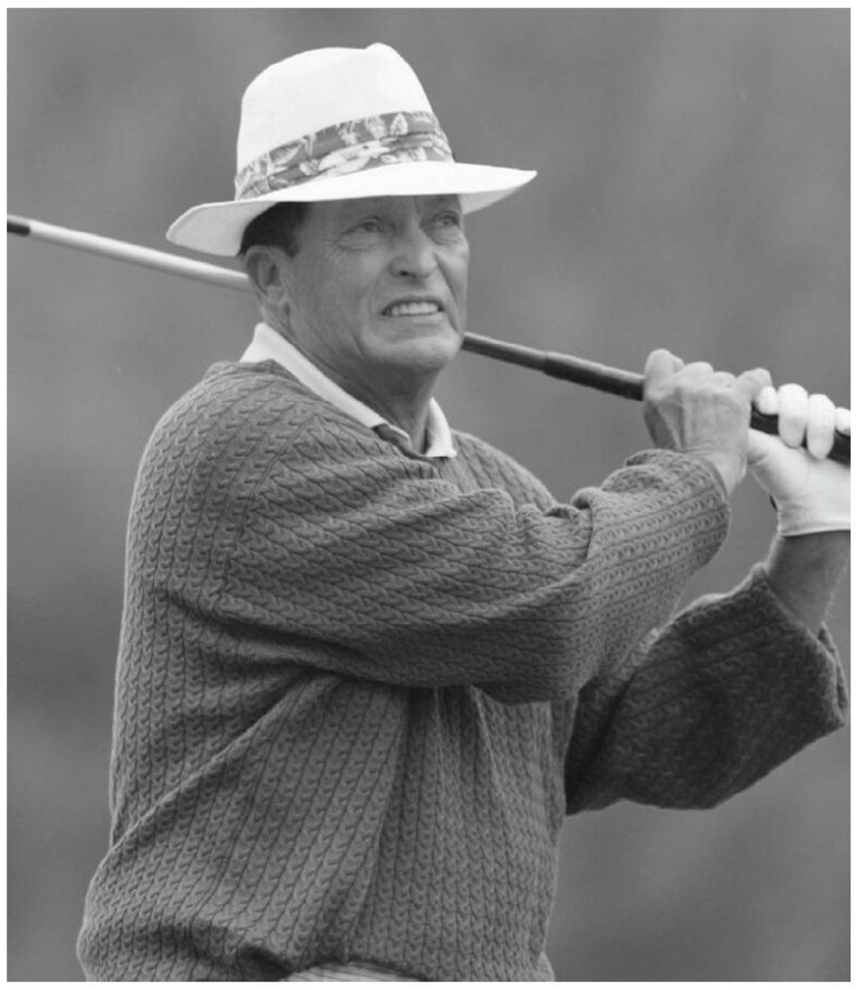
2024

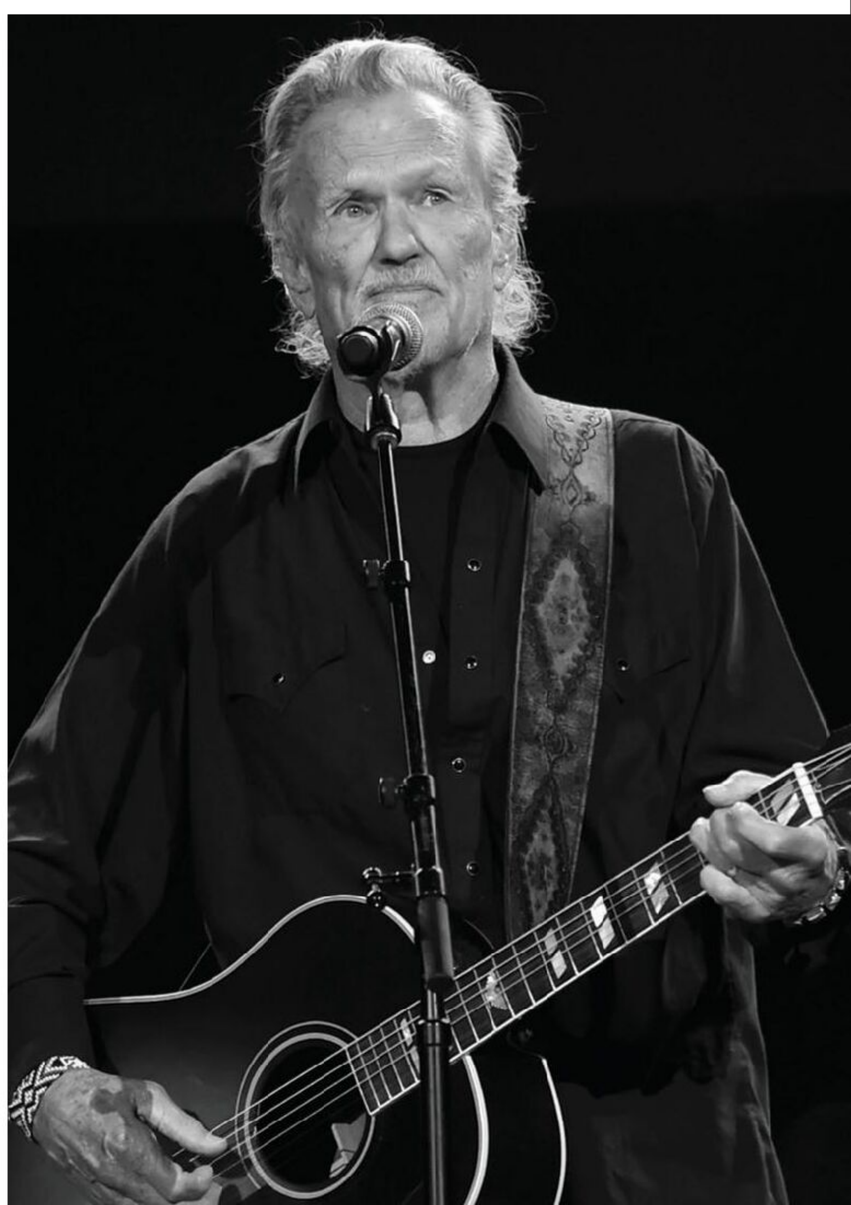












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GLYNIS JOHNS

ACTOR

B. 1923 Glynis Johns, the veteran British actor with a famously tremulous voice, died January 4 at age 100. She was known as the suffragist Mrs. Banks in Disney's *Mary Poppins* (1964), yet her best role was her Tony-winning turn as fading starlet Desiree Armfeldt in Stephen Sondheim's 1973 Broadway hit *A Little Night Music*. Johns stunned audiences with her moving rendition of the now-iconic ballad "Send in the Clowns." Born in South Africa where her parents, both artists, were on tour, Johns worked steadily on stage and screen from a young age. But she regarded "Clowns," which Sondheim wrote for her at the last minute, during the show's rehearsals, as "the greatest gift I've ever been given in the theater."

DAVID SOUL

ACTOR

B. 1943 David Soul shot to fame as cool-headed Ken "Hutch" Hutchinson to Paul Michael Glaser's fast-talking David Starsky in the ABC cop show *Starsky & Hutch* (1975-79). His wide-ranging career saw him working as an actor, singer, and director in the U.S. and the U.K., where he moved in 1995. He became a U.K. citizen in 2004. Music was his first love; he had a No.1 hit in 1976 with "Don't Give Up on Us," at the height of his Hutch popularity—he even sang it in one episode. Soul struggled with, and eventually overcame, alcoholism and he married five times, but his last marriage to Helen Snell, whom he called his "soulmate," lasted 14 years until his death January 4 at age 80.

JOSEPH LELYVELD

JOURNALIST

B. 1937 As executive editor of *The New York Times* from 1994 to 2001, Joseph Lelyveld shepherded the Gray Lady through journalism's seismic shift from daily print to 24-hour digital news. He was a steady hand as the paper covered a series of unforgettable events, including the Oklahoma City bombing, O.J. Simpson trial, Unabomber case, and too-close-to-call George W. Bush-Al Gore presidential race. He oversaw an era of uncommon excellence at the paper, with his staff garnering numerous Pulitzer Prizes, while it earned record profits. A gifted writer himself, Lelyveld won a Pulitzer for his 1985 book *Move Your Shadow: South Africa, Black and White*, drawn from his years as a *Times* correspondent in Johannesburg. He died January 5 at 86.

REGGIE WELLS

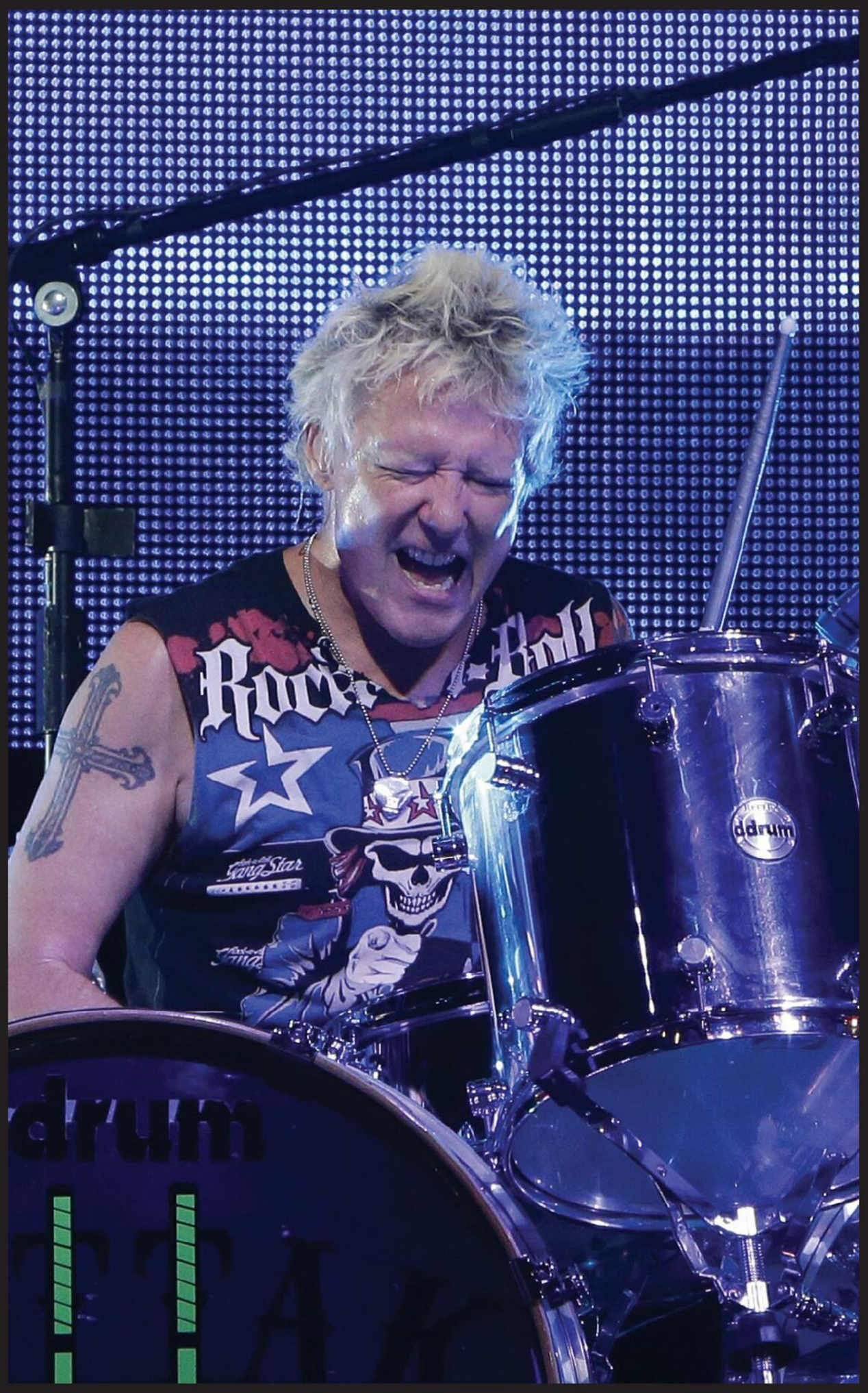
MAKEUP ARTIST

B. 1947 Reggie Wells once called himself "a shrink with a makeup case." Many of the famous women who worked with him, including Oprah Winfrey, Beyonce, Michelle Obama, and Natalie Cole, praised his social skills as much as his transformative talent with a makeup brush. A graduate of the Maryland Institute College of Art, Wells worked at New York department store makeup counters in the late '70s before moving to fashion magazines. Because the beauty industry at the time made no products for Black skin tones, Wells remixed and reformulated cosmetics to create glamorous looks for women of color. He met Winfrey during a cover shoot for *Essence* magazine and became her full-time makeup artist in 1990. He died at 76 on January 8.

JAMES KOTTAK

MUSICIAN

B. 1962 James Kottak, longtime drummer for the German hard rock band Scorpions died January 9 at age 61. A native of Louisville, Kentucky, Kottak showed an early aptitude for music and was playing drums professionally at age 14. He later attended the University of Louisville on a music scholarship. He moved to Los Angeles in his mid-20s, where he eventually joined Kingdom Come, another influential German band. He joined Scorpions in 1996 and was their drummer for 20 years before he was forced out because of his continuing struggles with alcoholism. Kottak was married to fellow drummer Athena Lee, sister of Tommy of Motley Crue fame, for 14 years until 2010.



RUTH ASHTON TAYLOR

JOURNALIST

B. 1922 The only woman on Edward R. Murrow's CBS documentary team in the late 1940s, Ruth Ashton Taylor was a broadcast pioneer and the first woman to anchor a TV news program in Los Angeles in the 1960s. She died January 11 at 101. Born in Long Beach, California, Taylor got her master's in journalism at Columbia University in 1944 and started at CBS shortly after graduating. While researching a documentary on atomic science, she appealed repeatedly to Albert Einstein for an interview, but only succeeded when she stopped him on the street outside his house in Princeton, New Jersey. Throughout her career, Taylor resisted calls to cover soft items like department-store openings and instead chased hard news like fires, politics, and Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's assassination.

BUD HARRELSON

BASEBALL PLAYER

B. 1944 Bud Harrelson was with the New York Mets for two of their World Series wins—as shortstop in 1969 and as third-base coach in 1986. But Harrelson, who died January 11 at 79, may be best known as the skinny guy who, during a '73 championship game, wrestled with burly Pete Rose after Rose rammed into him at second base. Harrelson didn't emerge the victor—"I hit him right in the fist with my eye," he later joked—but the fight became a brawl among several players and had Mets fans raining down debris on Rose from the stands. Diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 2016, Harrelson talked publicly about his condition and worked to raise awareness of the disease.

ANNIE NIGHTINGALE

BROADCASTER

B. 1940 A soft-toned broadcaster with an encyclopedic knowledge of modern music, Annie Nightingale was the longest serving DJ on Radio 1, BBC's pop music station. Hired in 1970 as part of a push to appeal to women, Nightingale had no radio experience, but she'd been writing about pop music for a Brighton newspaper since the early '60s. She'd befriended the Beatles and other stars along the way. Nightingale succeeded at Radio 1 by sticking to her own playlists, introducing listeners to what she liked, including prog rock, punk, and indie. She discovered dance music in the late 1980s and never looked back, becoming Britain's dance-music maven. She was still appearing on air until a few weeks before her death January 11 at age 83.

JOYCE RANDOLPH

ACTOR

B. 1924 As wife Trixie to Art Carney's plumber Ed Norton, hapless sidekick to equally hapless bus driver Ralph Kramden (Jackie Gleason) on the iconic 1950s sitcom *The Honeymooners*, Joyce Randolph was adept at reacting to the boys' get-rich plans, which were constantly careening off track. Her role was smaller than that of co-star Audrey Meadows, who played Ralph's long-suffering wife, Alice, and unlike Meadows, Randolph rarely got to say a snappy one-liner. Instead, she got laughs with a weary shake of her head or an eloquent crossing of her arms. As the last surviving cast member, Randolph pleased fans at occasional appearances, but she did little acting after leaving the show in the late 1950s. She died January 13 at age 99.

TOM SHALES

TV CRITIC

B. 1944 Wielding rapier wit to slice through the flabby abdomen of bad TV, Tom Shales transformed television criticism into a critique on modern culture. He became chief TV critic at *The Washington Post* in 1977, part of a new generation of TV observers who grew up with the medium and harbored an unshaking belief in its potential but were often disappointed in the results. Over his 30 years on the TV beat, Shales expressed his disappointment spectacularly, often savagely, once renaming Kathie Lee Gifford's Christmas special "Oh Come, Let Us Adore Me" and nicknaming CBS News' Dan Rather "Gunga Dan" for a clumsy on-air foray into Afghanistan. Shales died January 13 at age 79.

JACK BURKE JR.

GOLFER

B. 1923 Golfer Jack Burke Jr., who won both the Masters and the PGA championships in the same year, 1956, died January 19, days before his 101st birthday. Born in Texas, eldest son of a country-club golf pro, Burke joined the pro tour at 23 and soon started racking up wins. But his career faltered until at 33, he was considering retiring. Instead, he came from behind to take the Masters trophy and then the PGA title a few weeks later. Burke, who co-founded Houston's famous Champions Golf Club in 1957, became a sought-after instructor to Phil Mickelson, Hal Sutton, and other golf greats.

ANNE EDWARDS

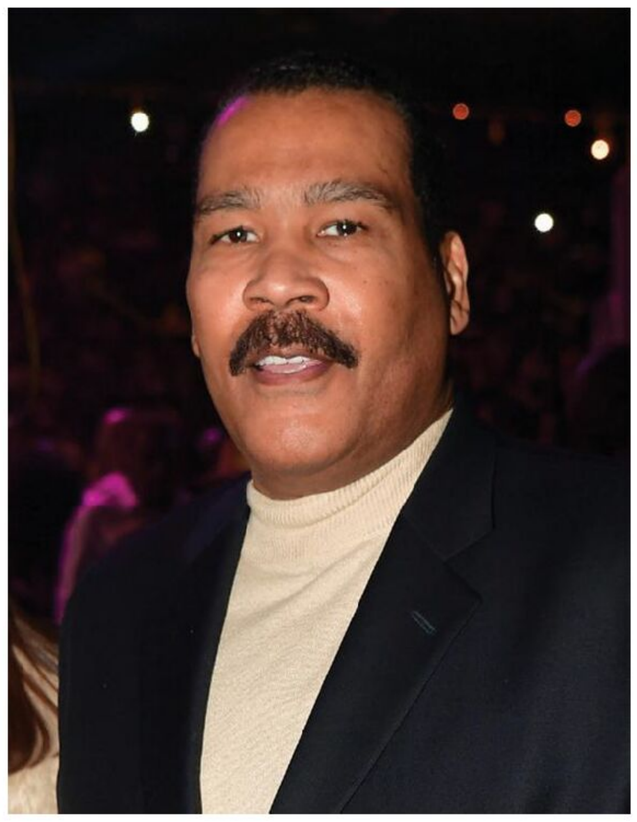
WRITER

B. 1927 Crowned "queen of biography," Anne Edwards explored the lives of famous people, namely Judy Garland, Vivien Leigh, and Maria Callas, with the affection and compassion of a good friend. She started out in Hollywood as a child performer but switched to her first love, writing, when she was in her early 20s. Edwards wrote scripts, including the screenplay for the 1957 Fred MacMurray movie *Quantez*, before moving to Europe, where she lived until 1973. She eventually settled in California. A champion of authors' rights, Edwards was president of the Authors Guild in the early 1980s. She never stopped working, up until her death at 96 on January 20. Her canon also includes several novels and two autobiographies.

NORMAN JEWISON

FILMMAKER

B. 1926 Canadian filmmaker Norman Jewison spent some 50 years just outside Hollywood's spotlight, making movies that earned Academy Awards for others but never for himself. His racially charged detective story *In the Heat of the Night*, released in 1967 at the height of the era's race riots, won five Oscars, including best picture. In all, his movies earned 46 Oscar nominations over his career. Though known for directing socially conscious stories, Jewison had enviable range. His hits include the musical *Fiddler on the Roof* (1971), the stylish original *Thomas Crowne Affair* (1968), and the romantic comedy *Moonstruck* (1987). He founded the Canadian Film Center, an intensive film school, in his native Toronto in 1988, and divided his time between Canada and California for the rest of his life. Jewison died January 20 at 97.



DEXTER KING

ACTIVIST

B. 1961 Dexter King, younger son of Martin Luther King Jr. and longtime guardian of his father's legacy, died January 22 at age 62. King was named for the Dexter Street Baptist Church in Atlanta where his father was pastor. He was just 7 when Martin Luther King was assassinated, and often spoke of how the murder shaped his life. Dexter was frequently at odds with his siblings over the direction of the King estate, but he remained devoted to his father's campaign of nonviolence in any form, even becoming a vegan. After visiting his father's killer, James Earl Ray, in prison, Dexter King came to believe Ray's claims of a government conspiracy around the murder, but a Justice Department probe in 2000 concluded Ray had acted alone.

ARNO PENZIAS

PHYSICIST & NOBEL PRIZE WINNER

B. 1933 Arno Penzias and Robert Wilson started at Bell Labs in the early '60s intending to measure the Milky Way. Instead, they found proof of something bigger: cosmic microwave background radiation—afterglow of the Big Bang that formed the universe. Penzias and Woodrow shared the 1978 Nobel Prize in physics for their discovery. For Penzias, who died January 22 at age 90, it was a remarkable result in a life that began in terrifying uncertainty. As Jews in Nazi Germany, his family was supposed to be deported to Poland, but their train was sent back. Then, at 6, Penzias and his brother escaped to England via the Kindertransport rescue. His parents managed to follow and, against odds, found their boys and brought them to New York.

MELANIE SAFKA

SINGER-SONGWRITER

B. 1947 Melanie Safka, known professionally as Melanie, was the reedy-voiced singer who in 1969 wowed Woodstock with a haunting rendition of Bob Dylan's "Mr. Tambourine Man." Later, the success of her biggest hit, the childlike "Brand New Key," overshadowed her ambitions to be accepted as a serious singer-songwriter. Melanie defied convention by starting her own record label in 1971, and she went on to record 31 albums. Just before her death January 23 at age 76, she was in the studio working on her next album, a series of covers by artists as varied as Morrissey, Radiohead, the Moody Blues, and Nine Inch Nails.

CHARLES OSGOOD

TV ANCHOR

B. 1933 With the easy-going demeanor of a favorite teacher, Charles Osgood made the CBS-TV magazine *Sunday Morning* a place to kick back and enjoy the culture for an hour each week. The longtime anchor of the award-winning program died January 23 at age 91.

In a crisp bow tie and sport coat, the gentlemanly Osgood presided over an eclectic selection of *Sunday Morning* segments that could range from a profile of graffiti artist Keith Haring to a tour of the Washington Monument to a cooking lesson from Julia Child. Osgood took over as host of the show from Charles Kuralt in 1994. By then, Osgood had been a CBS name for more than 20 years through his long-running radio show *The Osgood File*, in which he explored the human condition in two-minute vignettes. He always signed off with "I'll see you on the radio," a phrase he brought to *Sunday Morning*.

Osgood's lyrical storytelling earned him the moniker of poet-in-residence among his colleagues. He sometimes introduced segments in rhyme, or he sang, accompanying himself on piano or banjo. Osgood attributed his unconventional style to his having avoided journalism school, where his quirky approach, as he told *The New York Times*, "would probably have been drummed out of me." Instead, he studied economics at Fordham University, trying his hand at radio for the first time at the school's station, and went on to work for ABC before joining CBS. He wrote and reported for most of the network's news shows, and won several awards for his broadcast work, including three Emmys and a Peabody.

In 2008, Osgood branched out into feature films, narrating the animated adaptation of Dr. Seuss' *Horton Hears a Who!* He retired from *Sunday Morning* in 2016, and the last *Osgood File* aired in 2017.

N. SCOTT MOMADAY

WRITER

B. 1934 N. Scott Momaday, a writer whose Kiowa heritage shaped the themes and lyrical tone of his works, died January 24 at age 89. Momaday won the Pulitzer Prize in 1969, the first for any Native American author, for his novel *House Made of Dawn*, about a spiritually broken young World War II veteran returning to the Southwestern pueblo of his youth. Momaday went on to explore themes of identity and self-determination in his prolific writings, which include poetry, essays, and memoirs. He influenced a generation of Native American writers, including Sherman Alexie, and was awarded the National Medal of Arts in 2007.

HINTON BATTLE

ACTOR, SINGER, & DANCER

B. 1956 Hinton Battle, who died January 30 at age 67, was an accomplished ballet dancer but couldn't tap dance when he was cast in the Broadway musical *Sophisticated Ladies* in 1981. But he learned tap in a few dizzying weeks of intense study and later won a Tony for his performance. Battle attended George Balanchine's ballet school at 13 and debuted on Broadway at 18 as Scarecrow in *The Wiz* in 1975. Over his long career, Battle won two more Tonys as best featured actor in a musical, the only person ever to have won three times in that category. On TV, one of his most notable roles was Sweet, a tap-dancing demon in a 2001 musical episode of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*.

CHITA RIVERA

ACTOR, SINGER, & DANCER

B. 1933 Chita Rivera, the legendary Broadway performer who originated the role of Anita in *West Side Story*, died January 30. She was 91. Born Dolores Conchita Figueroa del Rivero, she grew up in Washington, D.C., where her father, who was from Puerto Rico, played in the Army band, and her mother was a clerk at the Pentagon. Conchita took dance and music lessons from a young age and eventually won a scholarship to George Balanchine's School of American Ballet in New York. She debuted on Broadway in the chorus of *Can-Can* in 1953, and later shortened her name to Chita Rivera. In 1957, her electrifying performance in *West Side Story* made her the talk of Broadway.

In more than 50 years on the stage, Rivera ruled every scene with her athletic dancing, strong alto voice, and magnetic presence. As TIME's Richard Corliss wrote of her in 1984, "the 51-year-old entertainer could by now sell a song to the deaf."

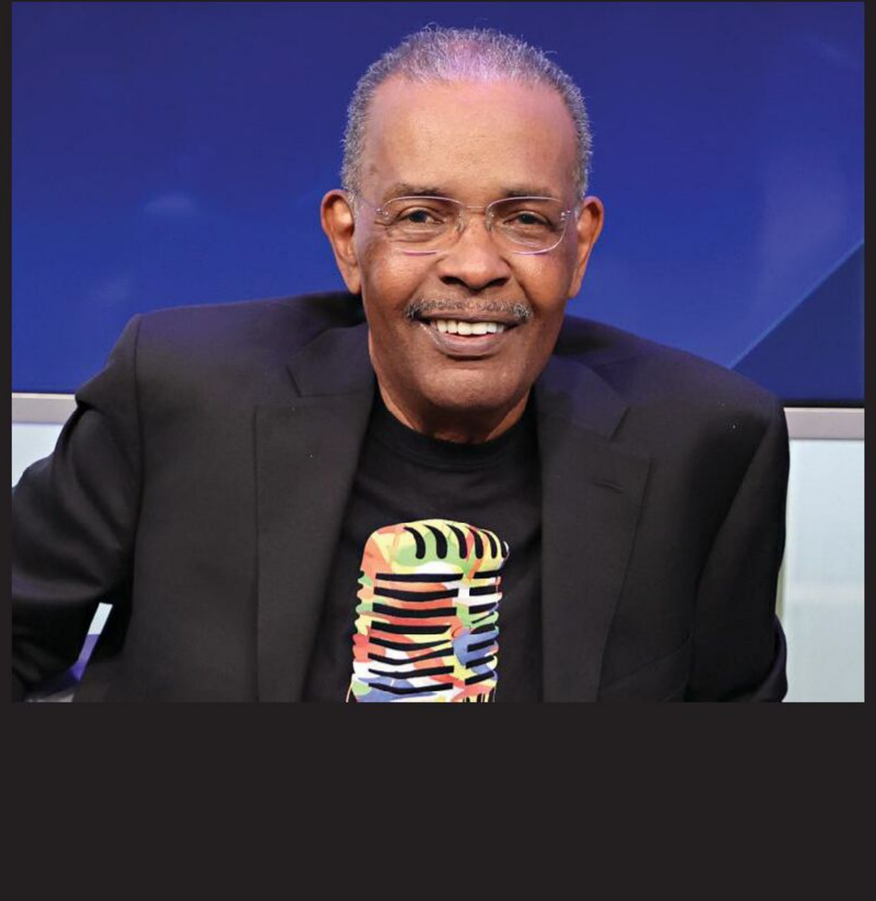
In addition to Leonard Bernstein's music, she interpreted, with verve, works by giants of the modern stage, namely Bob Fosse, Stephen Sondheim, Jerome Robbins, John Kander and Fred Ebb, and Terrence McNally, originating some of the most memorable musical theater roles for women, including Velma Kelly in *Chicago* and Aurora in *Kiss of the Spider Woman*.

She received two best-actress Tony Awards and a lifetime achievement Tony in 2018, Kennedy Center honors in 2002, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2009. Her last appearance on Broadway was in 2015, when at 82, she starred in *The Visit*, about a widow who dreams up a murder-for-hire scheme. Retirement? "Gosh, no," Rivera said at the time in an interview with *BroadwayDirect.com*. "I have too much to dance and sing about yet, and too many people to entertain."

ELLEN GILCHRIST

WRITER

B. 1935 Ellen Gilchrist, who won the National Book Award for her story collection *Victory Over Japan*, died January 30. She was 88. Gilchrist's stories dissected the fraught domesticity of southern suburbia. Raised in the Mississippi Delta, Gilchrist drew on her experiences of life in the Deep South to explore themes of disappointment, independence, abandonment, and redemption. Gilchrist took up writing later in life, publishing her first collection at 46, and with a subsequent proliferation of stories, novels, and essays, she seemed to be making up for lost time. "What I'm trying to do now is make a study of existence," she told *Publishers Weekly* in 1992.



JOE MADISON

TALK SHOW HOST

B. 1949 A radio talk show host famous for his social activism, including a hunger strike in support of voter's rights, Joe Madison died January 31 at age 74. Madison was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame in 2019 after a long career that began with DJing at Washington University in St. Louis in the late 1960s. Madison ran a chapter of the NAACP before taking radio jobs in Detroit, Philadelphia, and finally Washington, D.C. He was known as The Black Eagle and The Judge—because he never let callers inject misinformation into a debate. Madison's show on SiriusXM became a hotspot for political luminaries, including former President Barack Obama and former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

CARL WEATHERS

ACTOR

B. 1948 Carl Weathers, who played Apollo Creed in four *Rocky* movies, defined the chiseled knight that became a staple of action movies in the 1980s. After appearing as the fast-talking bad-guy boxer opposite Sylvester Stallone in the first *Rocky* (1977), Weathers gradually moved into good-guy territory in the franchise's later entries. By *Rocky IV*, Apollo was Rocky's friend whose death at the hands of the monolithic Ivan Drago (Dolph Lundgren) triggers a revenge plot.

Born in New Orleans, Weathers was a gifted athlete and played football for San Diego State University when the team won the Pasadena Bowl in 1969. He graduated with a degree in theater arts, intending to become an actor, but he couldn't pass up a chance to play in the NFL and signed on as a linebacker with the Oakland Raiders. However, coach John Madden cut Weathers after seven games, telling him that he was too sensitive. "As a football player … the last thing you want to hear is that you're too sensitive," Weathers told *Sports Illustrated*. "On the other hand, without that sensitivity, how could I be an actor? How could I be an actor of any worth, really?"

Weathers acted in blaxploitation movies by Arthur Marks and a string of 1970s TV shows, including *Cannon*, *Kung Fu* and *Good Times*, before landing his big break with *Rocky*. After Apollo was killed off, Weathers co-starred with Arnold Schwarzenegger in the sci-fi action thriller *Predator* (1987) and headlined as a tough cop with a righteous attitude in *Action Jackson* (1988).

It wasn't until 2021 that he earned his first Emmy nomination for his role as Greef Karga in *The Mandalorian*, the Disney+ *Star Wars* spinoff series.

Weathers died February 1. He was 76.

DON MURRAY

ACTOR

B. 1929 Don Murray, who died February 2 at 94, earned fame and an Oscar nomination as the goofy cowpoke who falls in love with Marilyn Monroe in the 1956 comedy-drama *Bus Stop*. It was an early highlight in a 60-year career of varied, sometimes daring roles that included a drug addict in *A Hatful of Rain* (1957) and a closeted gay senator in *Advise and Consent* (1962). Murray, who worked with refugees as a conscientious objector during the Korean War, preferred socially conscious roles. "My pictures don't have to have a message," he told a reporter in 1961. "But they do have to say something." Murray's TV work included *Knots Landing* (1979-81) and *Twin Peaks: The Return* (2017).

ASTON "FAMILY MAN" BARRETT

MUSICIAN

B. 1946 Bassist Aston Barrett was the man who gave rhythmic structure to the iconic reggae of Bob Marley and the Wailers. Barrett, who died February 3 at 77, described bass as the music's backbone. "If the bass is not right, the music is gonna have a bad back, so it would be crippled," he told music journalist Jas Obrecht in 2011. Barrett and his brother Carlton, who played drums, appeared on the Wailers' biggest hits, including "No Woman, No Cry," "Get Up Stand Up," and "Jamming." He adopted the nickname "Family Man" because he regarded his fellow musicians as family, although he also had a large family of his own—23 daughters and 18 sons.

VITTORIO EMANUELE, PRINCE OF NAPLES

ITALIAN ROYAL

B. 1937 Vittorio Emanuele di Savoia, son of Italy's last king, died in exile February 3 at age 86. Born into a controversial family that supported Benito Mussolini's fascists in World War II, Vittorio managed to worsen his reputation through questionable business dealings, accusations of racketeering, and a manslaughter charge in the fatal shooting of a 19-year-old German tourist, of which Vittorio was ultimately acquitted. Vittorio's father, Umberto II, ruled Italy for 34 days until a referendum in 1946 abolished the monarchy. Italy banished the royal family, and the prince settled in Switzerland. His manslaughter case was the subject of a 2023 Netflix documentary *The King Who Never Was*.

BOB BECKWITH

FIREFIGHTER

B. 1932 Though retired in September 2001 from Ladder Company 164 in Queens, New York, Bob Beckwith donned his old fire helmet and rushed to help when he saw the World Trade Center attacks on TV. His gear got him past roadblocks to ground zero, where he joined the bucket brigade—moving debris in search of survivors. His brigade uncovered FDNY Engine 76. Beckwith was standing on it when President George W. Bush joined him to speak to emergency service workers. The image of Beckwith with the president made the cover of TIME and became an icon of American grit. Beckwith later donated his leather helmet to the 9/11 Memorial & Museum. He died February 3 at age 91.

TOBY KEITH

SINGER-SONGWRITER

B. 1961 Raised in Oklahoma, Toby Keith worked on oil rigs before forming a band and touring the rowdy roadhouse circuit full-time. He proved a prolific singer-songwriter with a knack for composing toe-tappers that both idealized and poked fun at country culture. His first big hit, "Should've Been a Cowboy" in 1993, laments the loss of western he-men driving cattle, "stealin' the young girls' hearts just like Gene and Roy," and never settling down. In 2011, he wrote the ultimate party song in "Red Solo Cup," the plastic drinking vessel "that's cheap and disposable; in 14 years they are decomposable." Delivered in a slurring country-rap and served up in a music video that could have been filmed at an Ole Miss frat party. The song was a crossover hit, reaching No. 15 on the *Billboard* Hot 100.

His patriotic anthems such as "Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue (The Angry American)," composed after the 9/11 terrorist attacks "in a 20-minute writing binge," as he later told TIME, could be polarizing. He had a brief, fiery feud with Chicks' singer Natalie Maines, who criticized the "ignorant" nationalism of "Courtesy." But Keith held that his politics were more nuanced than many assumed; he pointed out that he was a registered independent and had done concerts for both former presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama.

Keith was one of the most successful country stars of all time, with 20 No. 1 hits on the country *Billboard* chart, and an estimated net worth in 2013 of half a billion dollars. He owned a record label, restaurant chain, and liquor brand. He also was an early investor in Big Machine Records, Taylor Swift's first label.

Keith was diagnosed with and treated for stomach cancer in 2022. He died February 5 at age 62.

MOJO NIXON

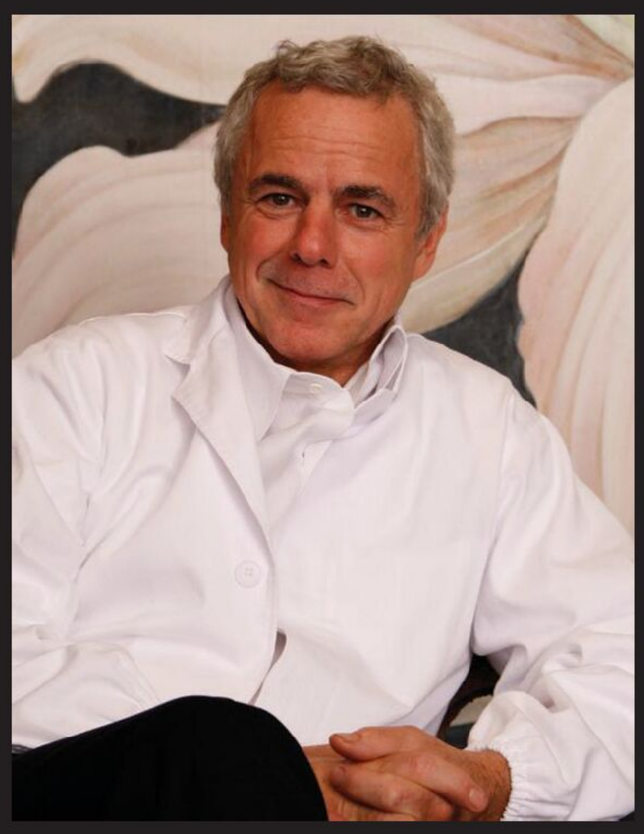
SINGER-SONGWRITER

B. 1957 Neill McMillan, known as Mojo Nixon, wrote catchy tunes that flipped off mainstream culture. His songs "Elvis is Everywhere" (1987) and "Don Henley Must Die" (1990) were cult hits that earned McMillan a place in the punk pantheon—though his sound was more like rockabilly on speed. His lyrics expressed an Everyman frustration with pious conservatism and stuffy institutions. "I hate banks," he railed in a 1986 song of the same name. "Smells worse than Rockefeller's feet." In recent years, McMillan hosted a country show on SiriusXM. He died February 7 after finishing a show on the *Outlaw Country Cruise*. He was 66.

BOB EDWARDS

RADIO HOST

B. 1947 Bob Edwards, whose smooth baritone defined the sound of National Public Radio's "Morning Edition" for more than 24 years, died February 10. He was 76. A native of Louisville, Kentucky, Edwards joined NPR in the early 1970s. He was a host of the popular "All Things Considered" when he took over "Morning Edition" in 1979, where his calm voice made the show a safe port in listeners' whirlwind mornings. His work won him a Peabody Award in 1999. NPR fielded thousands of complaints in 2004 after it replaced Edwards in favor of hosts who were more comfortable with a breaking news format and live talk. Edwards was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame later that year.



DAVID BOULEY

CHEF

B. 1953 A chef whose innovations made New York's Tribeca a culinary haven in the 1980s, David Bouley never stopped experimenting with the transformative power of food. Pursuing a lighter, kinder French cuisine at restaurants in Lower Manhattan, Bouley was famous for velvety sauces made without cream and hours-long meals that he often prepared himself—rare in a commercial kitchen. He valued vegetables, herbs, and fruits picked ripe, and gave fresh fish top billing, influencing a generation of chefs on those principles. Bouley also revered Japanese cuisine and culinary techniques. In recent years, he concentrated on how to get the most nutrition out of a meal. He died February 12 at 70.

BOB MOORE

BUSINESSPERSON

B. 1929 Bob Moore, who founded the whole-grain empire Bob's Red Mill in 1978, just as the natural-food movement was taking off, died February 10 at age 94. Moore was almost 50 and retired when he and his wife, Charlee, noticed a run-down mill for sale outside Portland, Oregon. Moore had forayed into grain-making earlier in his career; he'd also owned gas stations. But the old mill fired his imagination. "So basically, I bought the thing and it changed my entire life," he told an Oregon State University interviewer in 2017. Bob's Red Mill now earns an estimated $100 million a year. Moore transferred company ownership to his employees on his 81st birthday in 2010.

ROGER GUILLEMIN

NEUROSCIENTIST & NOBEL PRIZE WINNER

B. 1924 Roger Guillemin, whose work with millions of sheep brains led to groundbreaking discoveries about the pituitary gland, died February 21 at age 100. Guillemin was a country doctor outside his hometown of Dijon, France, before he shifted to research in the 1950s, working with Canadian endocrinologist Hans Selye in Montreal. Over several years in different laboratories, including the Salk Institute, Guillemin eventually isolated the releasing factors from the hypothalamus that triggered the pituitary, which in turn triggered control of the thyroid and other glandular functions. In 1977, he shared the Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine with Andrew Schally—Guillemin's former colleague who became his bitter rival in the same field of endocrine research.

JEAN-GUY TALBOT

HOCKEY PLAYER

B. 1932 Jean-Guy Talbot was one of the 12 players who won five consecutive Stanley Cups with the Montreal Canadiens from 1956 through 1960, an NHL record. Talbot played defense on the storied team, which included Hall of Famers Maurice "Rocket" Richard and goalie Jacques Plante. He was with the Habs for 801 games and later played for the Detroit Red Wings and St. Louis Blues, among others, reaching a career 285 points and 43 goals, before turning to coaching in the 1970s. Born in a picturesque town northeast of Montreal, Talbot settled in the area after he retired, where he remained an enthusiastic Habs fan until his death February 22 at age 91.

KENNETH MITCHELL

ACTOR

B. 1974 Kenneth Mitchell, a Toronto-born actor who brought empathy to traditionally evil Klingon warriors in the *Star Trek* universe, died February 24 at age 49 of ALS. He was diagnosed in 2018. Mitchell played various Klingons on the first two seasons of the Paramount+ show *Star Trek: Discovery*. Their villainy is a matter of perspective, he told *StarTrek.com* in 2017. "You'll get to know the Klingons on our show, and then people can decide if we really are the villains." As Mitchell's illness progressed to his needing a wheelchair, producers created for him the character Aurellio, who uses a hoverchair. Mitchell also acted in the film *Captain Marvel* and the TV series *Jericho*.

BOB HEIL

SOUND ENGINEER

B. 1940 Bob Heil, who died February 28 at 83, gave live rock music its thunderous stage voice. He designed sound systems that overpowered the drone of large crowds, giving rise to arena rock. Heil got into the concert business in 1970, when he got a call at his music and electronics shop outside St. Louis: The Grateful Dead's sound equipment had been seized in a drug raid; could Heil provide a system for their show? Heil went on to work with The Who, Joe Walsh, and other big acts. He also invented the Talk Box, which makes vocals or guitars sound like an old-timey robot—famously heard on Peter Frampton's 1976 best-selling album *Frampton Comes Alive!*

RICHARD LEWIS

COMEDIAN

B. 1947 Richard Lewis was of a generation of comedians who mined their angst and despair for material. But few did it for as long and in such painful depth as Lewis. In fact, he called himself the Prince of Pain. He was candid about the heartache of growing up in Brooklyn, New York, with an all-but-absent father and an emotionally distant mother. "I owe my career to my mother," Lewis told *The Washington Post* in 2020. "I should have given her my agent's commission."

Clad in black, his long hair splayed out as if pulled at by a thousand anxious hands, Lewis riffed on the ways life could ruin his day. It often involved "dates from hell," his unique phrase that spawned countless iterations until in 2006 the *Yale Book of Quotations* credited Lewis with the entry "the _____ from hell." Dating was a favorite topic in many of his 48 appearances on *The David Letterman Show*, where he once mused about writing a manual of sexual positions that would include "Ouch, You're on My Hair." Perhaps not surprisingly, Lewis remained single until he was 57. Famously neurotic, he proposed to his wife, Joyce Lapinsky, only after he brought her to see his therapist.

Lewis did standup in the '70s, acted in films and sitcoms in the '80s, and then had hits with TV concert specials in the '90s, including *Richard Lewis: Magical Misery Tour*. Recently, he played an exaggerated version of himself in a recurring role on *Curb Your Enthusiasm*. Each career phase had its own cohort of fans who came together at his shows, Lewis said in 2014. "There will be a 13-year-old and then there will be a guy on a gurney saying, 'I wanted to see you before I die.'"

Lewis struggled with addiction until getting sober in 1994. He died February 27 at age 76.

LISA LANE

CHESS PLAYER

B. 1938 Lisa Lane was the first chess player ever to appear on the cover of *Sports Illustrated* (1961). She took up the game while studying at Temple University; in 1959, less than two years after she learned, Lane won the U.S. women's championship. Lane lobbied for equal pay for the women's game, but she struggled to be taken seriously. In 1961, when the panel on TV's *What's My Line?* failed to guess her profession, panelist Abe Burrows said, "Because she's so pretty, we ruled out anything intellectual." Lane eventually quit chess in disgust, though she remained on the fringes, opening a chess store in New York and befriending the great Bobby Fischer. She died February 28 at age 90.

CHRIS MORTENSEN

SPORTS JOURNALIST

B. 1951 Chris "Mort" Mortensen, longtime NFL reporter for ESPN, died March 3 at age 72. He'd been diagnosed with throat cancer in 2016. One of the first of TV's NFL insiders, Mortensen moved to ESPN in 1991 after years as an investigative sportswriter, chiefly at *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. He cultivated sources all over the league to snag scoops. Mortensen was the first to report in 2012 that quarterback Peyton Manning had signed with Denver after 13 years in Indianapolis. Four years later, Manning gave Mort the scoop that he was retiring. Mortensen had a rare ethical stumble in 2015, when he was criticized for misreporting the "Deflategate" scandal involving the New England Patriots and then failing to correct his error for six months.

IRIS APFEL

DESIGNER

B. 1921 Iris Barrel Apfel, an interior designer and textiles expert, was best known in recent years for her personal style which, in its riotous color and anything-goes abandon, made her a fashion icon in her 80s. No one ever accused Apfel of going gently into that dark night; she lit it up in neon-yellow tunics adorned with sparkly toucan decals, strings of necklaces with beads the size of duck eggs, a gazillion bangles on her wrists, and her signature dark-rimmed saucer eyeglasses.

"I like big, bold, and a lot of pizzazz," she deadpanned in *Iris*, Albert Maysles' 2014 documentary about her.

Apfel grew up in Queens, New York, where she learned about style from her mother, a designer, and by scouring flea markets for vintage items. She studied art history at New York University and art at the University of Wisconsin. In 1948, she married advertising executive Carl Apfel, and for the next few decades they traveled the world studying fabrics, and collecting art, artifacts, and design ideas to bring home to New York to their textiles company, Old World Weavers. They consulted on textile restoration at the White House for more than 40 years, from Harry Truman's presidency to Bill Clinton's. Iris Apfel also did interior design for clients, including Greta Garbo and socialite Marjorie Merriweather Post.

Though well known among design and fashion aficionados, Apfel didn't go mainstream until 2005, when the Metropolitan Museum of Art launched a wildly popular exhibit of 80 outfits from her personal wardrobe. She was 84.

After that, her fame only grew: At 90, she started selling her own jewelry and accessories through the Home Shopping Network; at 96, she published *Iris Apfel: Accidental Icon*; and at 97, she signed a modeling contract with IMG. The self-professed "geriatric starlet" had more than 3 million followers on Instagram.

She died March 1 at 102.

STEVE LAWRENCE

SINGER, COMEDIAN, & ACTOR

B. 1935 Steve Lawrence, the charming baritone who with his wife and fellow singer Eydie Gorme formed the popular act Steve & Eydie, died March 7 at 88. Steve & Eydie gloried in the Great American Songbook through more than 50 years as nightclub performers, on TV talk shows in the '70s, and in network specials. Lawrence also acted. He was nominated for a Tony in his Broadway debut as conniving agent Sammy Glick in *What Makes Sammy Run* in 1964, and he had another memorable agent role, Maury Sline, in the film *The Blues Brothers* (1980). A close friend of Carol Burnett, Lawrence made 39 guest appearances on her variety show in the '60s, '70s, and '80s.

HERBERT KROEMER

PHYSICIST & NOBEL PRIZE WINNER

B. 1928 Herbert Kroemer, a theoretical physicist, won a Nobel Prize for work that led to today's high-speed communications technology. Kroemer's theory, conceived in the mid-1950s and advanced a decade later, concerned heterostructure, which was a way of building semiconductors to increase their energy and make them faster. He patented the idea in 1967. The discovery led to laser diodes, used in devices like bar-code scanners and cellphones as well as satellite communications and fiber-optic networks. Born and educated in Germany, Kroemer moved to the United States in the 1960s and joined the faculty of the University of California at Santa Barbara in 1976. He was professor emeritus there until his death at 95 on March 8.

PERCY ADLON

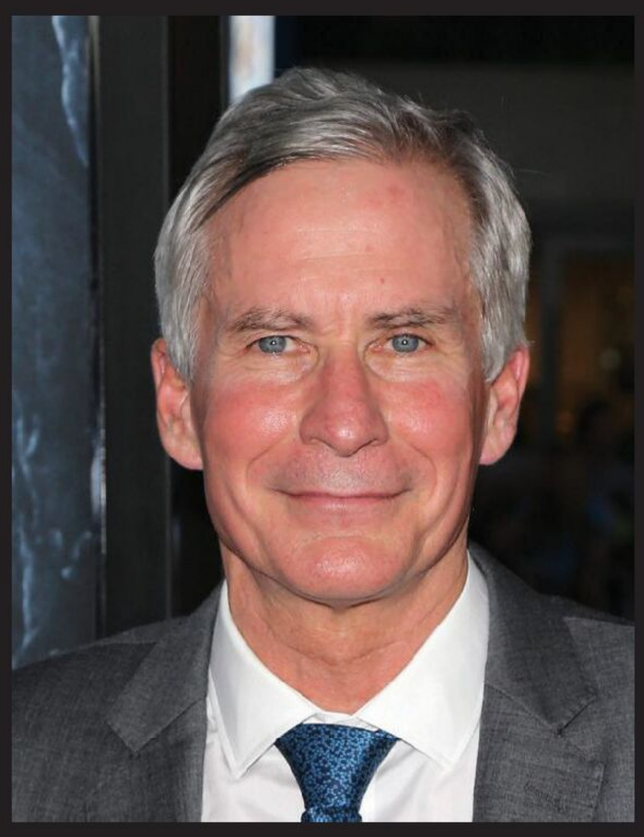
FILMMAKER

B. 1935 German filmmaker Percy Adlon scored a cult hit in 1987 with *Bagdad Café*, about a quirky gathering spot in the Mojave Desert. He died March 10 at 88. Adlon grew up in the Bavarian countryside, where his mother, Susanne, encouraged his interest in the arts. He later credited her for inspiring the strong women who populate his movies. Adlon and his wife and production partner, Eleonore, conceived the idea for *Bagdad Café* after an epic road trip along Route 66. The couple went on to make many more films in Germany and the U.S., including *The Glamorous World of the Adlon Hotel* (1996), an account of the stately luxury lodging in Berlin that belonged to his mother's family.

JERRY FOLEY

DIRECTOR

B. 1956 Thanks to Jerry Foley, fans of David Letterman never missed a smirk or a well-timed flick of a notecard at the camera. Foley, who directed some 4,000 hours of late-night television—most of them being Letterman's talk shows—was nominated for 24 Emmys and nine Directors Guild of America Awards over his career. A graduate of the University of Southern California, he started as technical director in 1990 for NBC's *Late Night with David Letterman*, then followed Letterman when he moved to CBS in 1993. Foley became director of *The Late Show with David Letterman* in 1995 and stayed there until it ended in 2015. He died in March 10 in Albany, New York, at age 68.



DAVID BREASHEARS

MOUNTAINEER & FILMMAKER

B. 1955 Mountaineer and filmmaker David Breashears made *Everest*, the highest-grossing IMAX documentary of all time. An avid climber growing up in Colorado, Breashears took up cinematography to support his passion. He first reached the summit of Everest in 1983. In 1996, he took a team back to the 29,032-foot mountain to document his ascent with Jamling Tenzing Norgay, son of the famed Tenzing Norgay who summited Everest with Edmund Hillary in 1953. Several others were making the climb, too, including writer Jon Krakauer, when a sudden blizzard left eight dead. Krakauer detailed the events in his 1997 bestseller *Into Thin Air*. Breashears, who reached the summit days after the disaster, released *Everest* in 1998. It earned $128 million. He died March 14 at age 68.

PAUL NELSON

MUSICIAN & RECORD PRODUCER

B. 1960 Paul Nelson, a protégé of legendary blues guitarist Johnny Winter who went on to be Winter's manager and producer, died March 10. He was 63. A skilled guitarist and songwriter, Nelson met Winter in 1999 in Connecticut while working as a session musician. Winter asked Nelson to work with him on *I'm a Bluesman* (2004), which included a song by Nelson. In addition to touring with Winter as a guitarist, Nelson became his manager in 2005, putting Winter on a health regimen to wean him off drugs and alcohol that is credited with reviving the blues star's career. Nelson produced Winter's final studio album, *Step Back*, which won a Grammy in 2015. He was an inductee to the New York Blues Hall of Fame and New England Music Hall of Fame.

DAVID SEIDLER

SCREENWRITER

B. 1937 David Seidler drew on his experiences as a stutterer when he wrote *The King's Speech* (2010), about the British monarch George VI, who struggled with a severe stammer. Seidler won an Academy Award for his original screenplay; at 73, he was the oldest ever recipient of a writing Oscar. His parents brought him to the U.S. from the U.K. in 1940, traveling in a convoy across a North Atlantic infested with German U-boats. One of the convoy ships was sunk. Seidler believed the trauma of the crossing led to his stammer. Though King George's wartime radio speeches inspired him, Seidler didn't overcome his impediment until he was a teenager, when, like the king in the movie, he discovered the liberating language of profanity. He died March 16 at 86.

THOMAS P. STAFFORD

ASTRONAUT

B. 1930 A soft-spoken Oklahoman, astronaut Thomas P. Stafford made history in 1975 when he commanded the first American-Soviet linkup in space. As he reached into the Russian *Soyuz*, he told the cosmonauts, "I'm sure we have opened up a new era in the history of man." Stafford made the short list in 1959 for Project Mercury to put a man on the moon, but at 6 feet, he was 1 inch too tall to fit in the *Mercury* capsule. He got his chance in 1962 with the larger capsules of *Gemini*. Stafford flew four space missions before retiring from NASA. In the late '70s, as head of the Air Force's secretive Area-51, Stafford set up the program that developed the Stealth bomber. He died March 18 at 93.

M. EMMET WALSH

ACTOR

B. 1935 A character actor who looked and sounded like no one else in show business, M. Emmet Walsh leant gravitas to his hundreds of roles—more than 250 in TV alone—over his 50-year career. His most memorable turn was as the sleazy, menacing private detective in *Blood Simple* (1984), Joel and Ethan Coen's first movie. Raised in Vermont, Walsh was deaf in one ear from childhood and spoke with a slight slur. He knew he wasn't destined for leads, but he learned how to give directors more in smaller parts, especially if the writing wasn't up to snuff. "They'd say, 'This is terrible crap—get Walsh. At least he makes it believable,' " he told an interviewer in 2011. Walsh died March 19, a few days before his 89th birthday.

MARTIN GREENFIELD

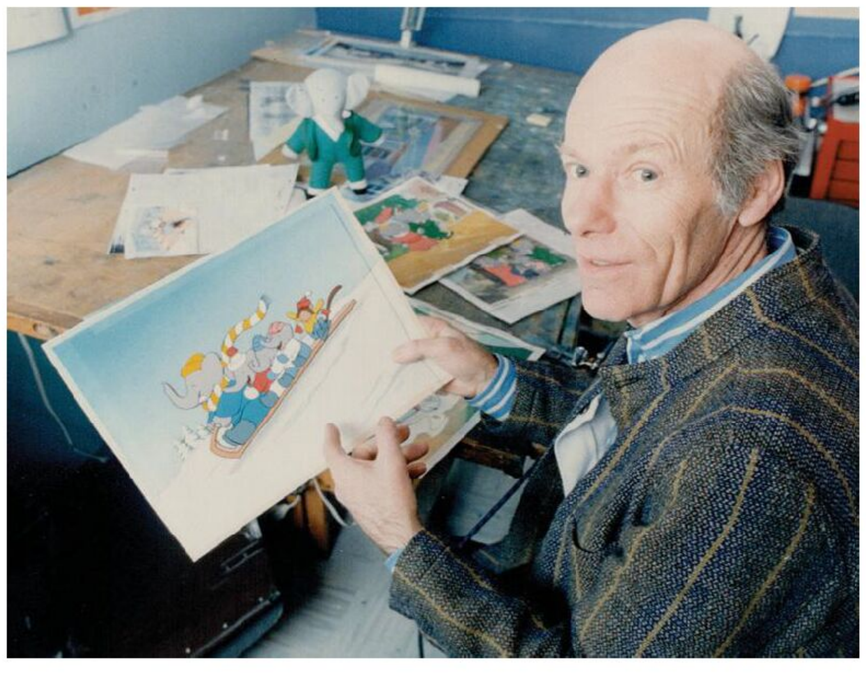
TAILOR

B. 1928 Martin Greenfield learned to sew in Auschwitz and went on to make suits for Frank Sinatra, Paul Newman, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Barack Obama, among others, and Hollywood costumes, including Joaquin Phoenix's garish red-and-orange outfit in *Joker* (2019). Born in Czechoslovakia, he was sent to Auschwitz at 15, where he was separated from his family and landed in the camp laundry. There, he was whipped for tearing a guard's shirt. With help, Greenfield fixed the shirt and decided on a whim to wear it under his prison uniform. From then on, seeing the shirt, guards treated him better. "I learned clothes possess power," he wrote in his 2014 biography *Measure of a Man*. In New York in 1947, $10 to his name, he apprenticed at a Brooklyn suit-maker. Thirty years later, he bought the company and renamed it Martin Greenfield Clothiers. He died March 20 at 95.

HAL MALCHOW

POLITICAL CONSULTANT

B. 1951 An influential political consultant for dozens of Democratic candidates, Hal Malchow was an expert in direct-contact campaigning—mailings, phone calls, and door-to-door canvassing. Malchow used a scientific approach, testing fliers and studying voter data to create targeted campaigns. He scored his first victory as a campaign manager in 1984 when Al Gore, then a U.S. representative for Tennessee, won a senate seat. Malchow quit the business in 2010, despairing of the venal turn of recent campaigns. Gene testing in his mid-30s revealed that Malchow was likely to get Alzheimer's. After he was diagnosed with the disease last fall, at 72, Malchow chose to end his life via assisted suicide in Switzerland. He died March 21.



LAURENT DE BRUNHOFF

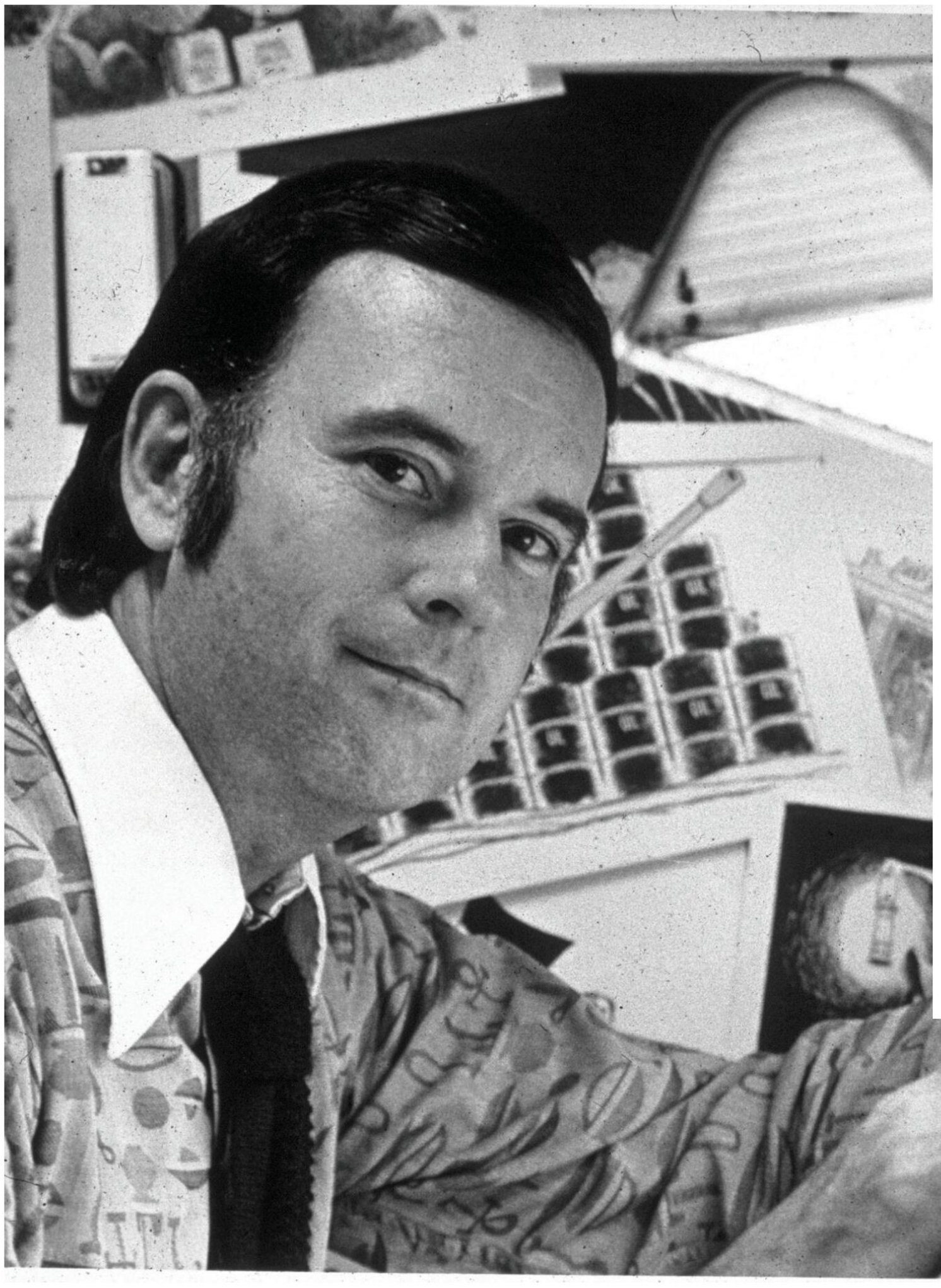
AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR

B. 1925 French picture-book author Laurent de Brunhoff delighted generations of children with his series about Babar, the dapper elephant who came to Paris as a baby and returned to the jungle a king. De Brunhoff took over the series from his father, Jean, who wrote five Babar books and had started two others when he died suddenly of tuberculosis at age 37. Laurent was 12 at the time but already showing a talent for illustration. He took up the series in 1946 with *Babar's Cousin: That Rascal Arthur*. In all, Laurent wrote more than 45 Babar books. His last, *Babar's Guide to Paris*, came out in 2017. De Brunhoff was 98 when he died March 22.

PETER ANGELOS

BASEBALL EXECUTIVE

B. 1929 As a personal injury lawyer, Peter Angelos earned millions for victims of asbestos poisoning. In 1993, he bought a controlling stake in his hometown Baltimore Orioles, a role he embraced with enthusiasm—too much enthusiasm, some said. Angelos stood alone among owners during the 1994 baseball strike by staunchly supporting the players union. But things turned sour at home as he interfered with the team's front office, going through five general managers in 10 years. Angelos could be heavy-handed, insisting, for instance, that Orioles management drive only American-made cars. Control of the team passed out of the hands of the Angelos family in 2024. Peter Angelos died March 23 at 94.



DON WRIGHT

POLITICAL CARTOONIST

B. 1934 A two-time Pulitzer-Prize winner, political cartoonist Don Wright mastered the art of trenchant commentary in a single frame and a few well-chosen words. Wright, who died March 24 at 90, spent most of his 45-year career in Florida, at *The Miami News* and *The Palm Beach Post*. He won his first Pulitzer in 1966 for a comic about the Cold War. It showed two men on a bombed landscape with one saying to the other, "You mean you were bluffing?" After he learned of the award, Alabama governor and segregationist George Wallace, a frequent target of Wright's biting wit, wrote the cartoonist: "Sometimes even the meanest cartoonists are unaccountably decorated for their work." Wright framed the letter.

LOUIS GOSSETT JR.

ACTOR

B. 1936 Louis Gossett Jr., a veteran character actor with an unmistakable screen presence, won a best supporting actor Oscar for playing tough drill sergeant Emil Foley in *An Officer and a Gentleman* (1982). Gossett, who died March 29 at 87, was the first Black performer to win the award.

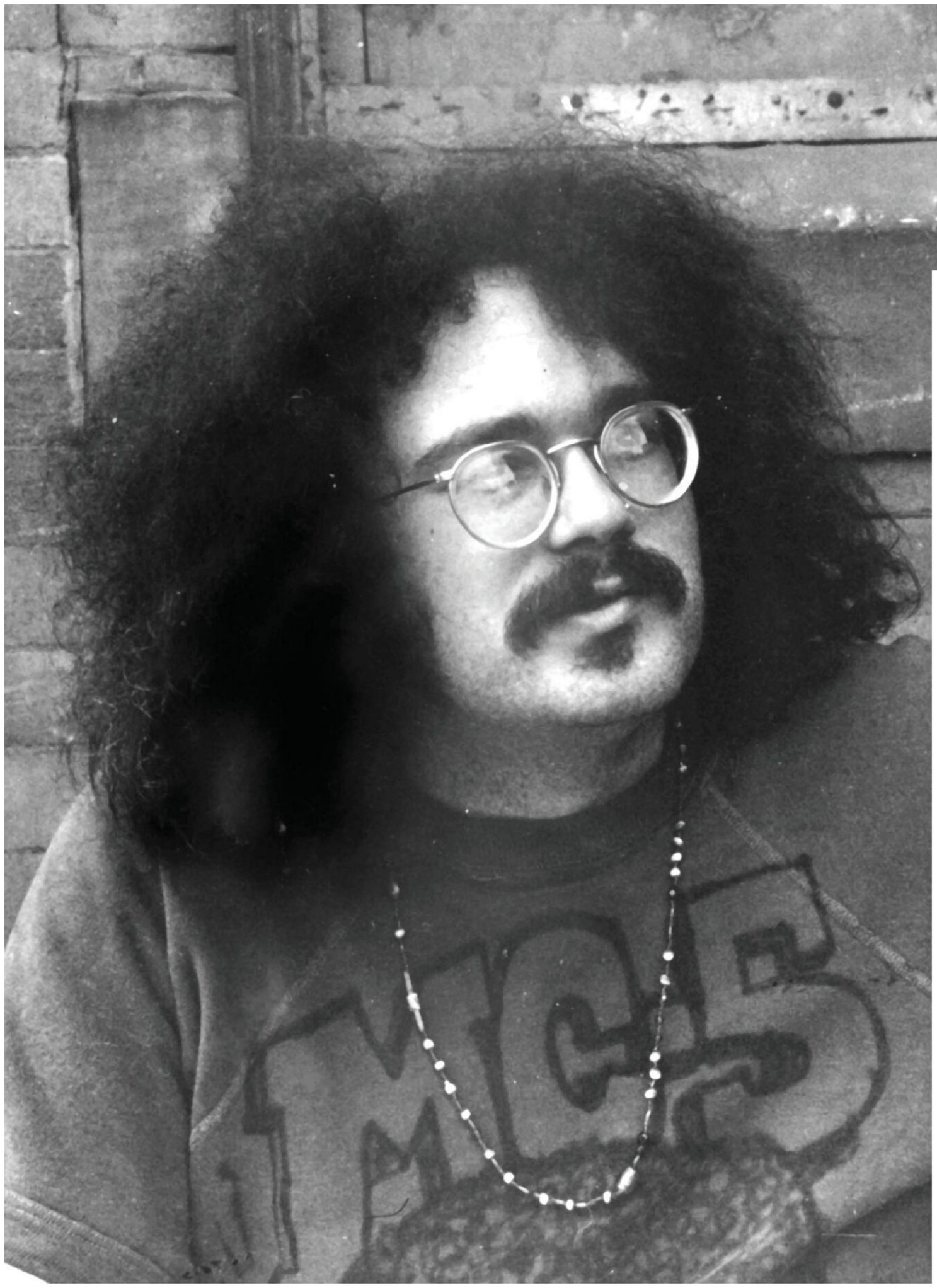
Before Sgt. Foley, Gossett's most famous role was that of Fiddler in the groundbreaking 1977 TV series *Roots*, for which he won an Emmy.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Gossett stood out in high school, where he acted in a production of *You Can't Take It With You* as he recovered from a basketball injury. That fall, at 16, he wowed Broadway as a troubled teenager in *Take a Giant Step*.

"In retrospect, I should have been scared to death as I walked onto that stage," Gossett wrote in his 2010 biography *An Actor and a Gentleman*. "But I wasn't."

Gossett traveled to Hollywood for his 1961 film debut, *A Raisin in the Sun*. He returned in '68 to make a TV movie, but he had a wretched experience: Driving a convertible the studio had rented for him, Gossett was surrounded by eight sheriff's officers, who pulled him over and phoned the rental company to confirm his credentials. Later, he was on a stroll near his hotel when police stopped him, claiming he'd broken a law against walking in Beverly Hills after 9 p.m. The officers chained him to a tree. "I had come face-to-face with racism, and it was an ugly sight," he wrote. Gossett later founded Eracism, a nonprofit to fight racism.

Producer Mark Wolper consulted Gossett before remaking *Roots* in 2016. Gossett told TIME that he didn't object to a reboot, but he wished Hollywood would explore other topics in the experience of African Americans. "That story has to be told," Gossett said. "But there are a lot more stories to be told than slavery."



JOHN SINCLAIR

ACTIVIST

B. 1941 John Sinclair, a counterculture icon, was at the heart of Detroit's raucous music and arts scene in the late '60s. He co-founded the White Panther Party to spark a spontaneous new order, as he explained in his 1972 book *Guitar Army*. But in 1969, he was arrested for giving two marijuana joints to a police officer and sentenced to 10 years. A "Free John Now" movement culminated in a concert in which John Lennon and Yoko Ono sang a song they wrote for Sinclair. Shortly after, Sinclair was paroled, and his conviction later overturned. A longtime marijuana advocate, Sinclair was among Michigan's first buyers after the state legalized it in 2018. He died April 2 at age 82.

LARRY LUCCHINO

BASEBALL EXECUTIVE

B. 1945 A baseball executive for more than 40 years, Larry Lucchino reimagined ballparks to make them more intimate, fan-friendly spaces. With the Baltimore Orioles in the 1980s, Lucchino pushed for a new park downtown rather than in the suburbs, which was the trend for stadiums at the time. When Camden Yards opened in 1992, it "changed everything," former baseball commissioner Bud Selig told the *Boston Globe*. It influenced the look of other parks, including Nationals Park in Washington, D.C., and Petco Park in San Diego. Beginning in 2002, as part-owner of the Boston Red Sox, Lucchino was instrumental in helping the team reverse its infamous "curse" and win the World Series in 2004. He died April 2 at 78.

LYNNE REID BANKS

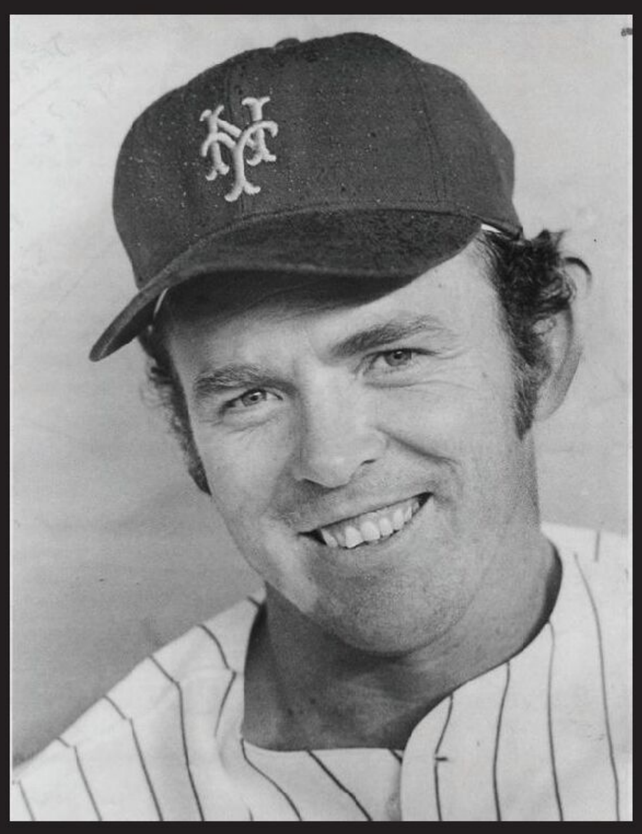
WRITER

B. 1929 Lynne Reid Banks is best known for her five-book children's series that started with *The Indian in the Cupboard* in 1980. Though popular, they fell into disfavor for their depiction of Native Americans. Banks was one of the first women in TV journalism in Britain in 1955, but she later said her bosses assigned her only "the rubbish" stories. Bored, she turned to writing. Her first novel, *The L-Shaped Room*, about a single mother in London, was published in 1960 and praised as a feminist work. Banks was married to Israeli sculptor Chaim Stephenson and taught English on a kibbutz for several years before the couple returned to England in 1971. She was 94 when she died April 4.

CJ SNARE

MUSICIAN

B. 1959 CJ Snare, lead singer and co-founder of the metal hair band FireHouse, died April 5. He was 64. Snare and FireHouse kept the pop-metal tradition alive long after it crested in the 1990s. He toured with the band for more than 30 years until a colon-cancer diagnosis in 2020 forced him to slow down. A classically trained pianist, Snare studied theater and music at Rollins College in Florida. He met bassist Perry Richardson in the mid-1980s and the two formed FireHouse. Two of the band's singles reached the Top 10 on the *Billboard* Hot 100—"Love of a Lifetime" (1991) and "When I Look Into Your Eyes" (1992).



JERRY GROTE

BASEBALL PLAYER

B. 1942 Jerry Grote, a two-time All-Star catcher, was a key part of the 1969 New York Miracle Mets, the underdog team that beat the heavily favored Baltimore Orioles to win the World Series. Considered the best defensive player ever for the Mets, Grote was the canny guide at home plate who steered the pitching staff to victory over the five games of the Series. "No one was better behind the plate," former Mets pitcher Jerry Koosman told CBS Sports. "He really controlled the game." Grote spent 12 seasons with the Mets, playing 1,127 games, the most in franchise history. He died April 7 at 81.

PETER HIGGS

PHYSICIST & NOBEL PRIZE WINNER

B. 1929 One of the greatest minds in theoretical physics, Englishman Peter Higgs first hypothesized the existence of an elementary particle that gave all other particles mass in 1964, when he was a 35-year-old assistant professor at the University of Edinburgh. It would take 48 years and billions of dollars to prove him right; experiments at the Large Hadron Collider in Switzerland in 2012 isolated the particle named the Higgs boson—also called "the God particle" for its role as the binding force in the universe. Higgs shared the 2013 Nobel Prize in physics with Belgian physicist Francois Englert, who independently reached the same discovery of a binding particle at about the same time as Higgs. Higgs died April 8. He was 94.

O.J. SIMPSON

FOOTBALL PLAYER & ACTOR

B. 1947 O.J. Simpson, whose fame as an NFL star was later eclipsed by the shattering repercussions of a spectacular double-murder trial, died April 10 after a battle with cancer. He was 76.

The former standout running back for the Buffalo Bills was a pitchman for Hertz and a co-star of the popular *Naked Gun* comedies when in 1994 he became the prime suspect in the stabbing deaths of his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ron Goldman. Police initially let Simpson go after questioning, but days later demanded that he turn himself in on murder charges. Instead, Simpson fled in a white Ford Bronco driven by his friend Al Cowlings. The ensuing low-speed police chase along Los Angeles freeways aired live on TV, drawing 95 million viewers.

Simpson's jury trial, dubbed "The Trial of the Century," captivated the nation and turned just about everyone connected with the proceedings into household names: Judge Lance Ito, prosecutor Marcia Clark, defense attorneys Johnnie Cochrane and Robert Kardashian, and witnesses Det. Mark Fuhrman, and Brian "Kato" Kaelin, who lived on Simpson's property.

Simpson was acquitted of all charges. In 1997, a civil jury found him liable for $33.5 million in a wrongful-death case brought by the Brown and Goldman families. He said he couldn't pay. At the time of his death, his debt to the Goldmans had ballooned to more than $100 million, with interest.

Simpson struggled to maintain his previous lifestyle. In 2007, he and a group of men, two of them armed, entered a Las Vegas hotel to take sports memorabilia from two collectibles merchants. Simpson was convicted of robbery, kidnapping, and conspiracy, among other charges, and sentenced to 33 years in prison. He was paroled in 2017.

TRINA ROBBINS

CARTOONIST

B. 1938 Trina Robbins was one of the first women in the influential underground cartoonists' scene—the comix movement—in the 1960s, a group that included Robert Crumb and S. Clay Wilson. She owned a clothing boutique in New York's Greenwich Village, where she perfected looks for counterculture icons Donovan, Mama Cass, and David Crosby. After moving to San Francisco in 1970, she and fellow cartoonist Barbara "Willy" Mendes produced *It Ain't Me, Babe*, a groundbreaking compilation of comics all by women. Joni Mitchell acknowledged Robbins' cultural importance with a mention in the song "Ladies of the Canyon." Robbins, who died April 10 at 85, was also a noted scholar and historian of women in comics.

ROBERT MACNEIL

JOURNALIST

B. 1931 Robert MacNeil covered some of the biggest news stories of the late 20th century, including the construction of the Berlin Wall, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and Civil Rights. Over his career, the Canadian-born journalist worked for the CBC, NBC in London and Washington, D.C., and the BBC. In 1971 he became a senior correspondent for PBS, where he met Jim Lehrer, and the two co-anchored the public network's Emmy-winning coverage of the Senate Watergate hearings. PBS's *The MacNeil/Lehrer Report* launched in 1975 as a 30-minute show, expanding in 1983 to be the nation's first hour-long primetime news program. MacNeil died April 12 at age 93.

ELEANOR COPPOLA

FILMMAKER & ARTIST

B. 1936 Eleanor Coppola chronicled the works of two prominent filmmakers, her husband, Francis Ford Coppola, and their daughter Sofia. Eleanor, who died April 12 at 87, married Francis in 1963 and pursued a career as an artist. In 1977, her husband asked her to record the making of *Apocalypse Now* (1979). Though hailed as a masterpiece upon release, the movie's setbacks during filming—over budget, wretched weather, Martin Sheen's heart attack—were legendary. Eleanor's behind-the-scenes documentary footage in *Hearts of Darkness: A Filmmaker's Apocalypse* (1991), lays bare what was less known: her husband's fear that he was making a pompous, unworthy film. Eleanor later documented the making of Sofia Coppola's movies *The Virgin Suicides* (1999) and *Marie Antoinette* (2006).

ROBERTO CAVALLI

FASHION DESIGNER

B. 1940 The glam, bold styles of Italian designer Roberto Cavalli—animal-print jackets, jewel-studded jeans, low-cut gowns of shimmering organza—appealed to the wearer's daring side. A favorite of Jennifer Lopez, Beyonce, and Lenny Kravitz, Cavalli hit it big in 1972 with what the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in Los Angeles called a "rich hippie" aesthetic: patchwork denim-and-leather outfits and appliqued dresses. But he lost ground in the '80s, when the minimalism of Calvin Klein and others dominated fashion. While working on a comeback show in 1994, Cavalli added Lycra to distressed denim to make a pair of pants for model Naomi Campbell. The rest is stretchy-jeans history. Cavalli died April 12 at age 83.

FAITH RINGGOLD

ARTIST & ACTIVIST

B. 1930 A prolific artist who mastered a range of genres and techniques, Faith Ringgold is best known for using a traditional craft, quilt-making, as an exploration of African American culture and history. Born in Harlem, she studied art at City College of New York and began working as a painter. In 1968 and 1970, Ringgold led protests at the Whitney Museum for its neglect of African American and women artists. She was arrested in 1970 for organizing an exhibition of flag art, which challenged a law against desecrating the flag. She started making "story quilts," combining images and text, in 1980. Her 1983 quilt Tar Beach was the inspiration for her popular 1991 children's book of the same name. She was 93 when she died on April 12.

KEN HOLTZMAN

BASEBALL PLAYER

B. 1945 Lefty Ken Holtzman, who pitched two no-hitters with the Chicago Cubs and won three World Series with the Oakland A's, was the winningest Jewish pitcher in league history with 174 wins over 15 seasons. Holtzman, who died April 14 at 78, pitched his first no-hitter against Atlanta in 1969 and his second two years later against Cincinnati. In 1971, he was traded to Oakland. He joined a storied A's team that included Reggie Jackson and Catfish Hunter; it went on to win the Series in '72, '73, and '74. Holtzman retired to his native St. Louis, where he worked for the Jewish Community Center. In 2007, he managed a team in the Israel Baseball League.

WHITEY HERZOG

BASEBALL PLAYER & MANAGER

B. 1931 Whitey Herzog used to say, "Baseball has been good to me since I quit trying to play it." Herzog, who died April 15 at age 92, had been a middling player but when he turned to managing in the mid-1970s, he found his superpower. His teams combined speed with strong defense and pitching—known as "Whiteyball." He led the Kansas City Royals to three straight American League Western Division titles, 1976-78, before joining the St. Louis Cardinals in 1980, where he formed a Whiteyball team in a series of trades involving 21 players. His Redbirds won the World Series in '82 and league pennants in '85 and '87. Herzog became a Hall of Famer in 2010.

DICKEY BETTS

MUSICIAN

B. 1943 As co-lead guitarist with Duane Allman in The Allman Brothers, Forrest Richard "Dickey" Betts quickly defined Southern Rock. The pair's impeccable ability to play off each other in a back-and-forth style formed an unmistakable sound that combined speedy old-time picking with more modern soloing. Betts wrote and sang the band's biggest hit, "Ramblin' Man," which reached No. 2 on the *Billboard* Hot 100 in October 1973, and he infused elements of Southern swing and jazz into his playing. His looks, especially his imposing moustache, and his rock-'n'-roll attitude inspired Billy Crudup's Russell character in Cameron Crowe's *Almost Famous* (2000). Betts died April 18 at age 80.

ROMAN GABRIEL

FOOTBALL PLAYER

B. 1940 A star quarterback at North Carolina State, Roman Gabriel was the No. 2 draft pick when he joined the Los Angeles Rams in 1962. At over 6 feet and around 230 pounds, Gabriel was unusually big for quarterbacks at the time. His size combined with his strong, precise throwing made him a formidable presence on the field. Green Bay's Vince Lombardi once described him as "a big telephone pole." Gabriel was the NFL's first Filipino American starting quarterback. He was league MVP in 1969 and made the Pro Bowl four times over 16 years in the NFL, first with the Rams, then the Philadelphia Eagles. He died April 20 at 83.

PAUL AUSTER

WRITER

B. 1948 The unofficial king of Brooklyn's literary court, Paul Auster was a prolific writer who wrote about the nature of writing itself in twisting, soul-searching stories. His breakthrough works, known as the New York Trilogy—*City of Glass* (1985), *Ghosts,* and *The Locked Room* (both 1986)—are considered important examples of American postmodernism. The novels take a classic figure of fiction, the detective, to explore the disorienting effects of loneliness and self-doubt. Auster, who was 77 when he died April 30, wrote 34 books in all, including acclaimed memoirs, along with screenplays and essays. In 2017, his Rashomon-like novel *4321* was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize; Nobel-winning writer J.M. Coetzee called it "a masterpiece."

DUANE EDDY

MUSICIAN

B. 1938 Legendary guitarist Duane Eddy was the rare instrumentalist who ascended to rock stardom, thanks to his signature "twang" style and a string of unforgettable hits, including his pulsing 1960 interpretation of Henry Mancini's theme for TV's *Peter Gunn*. Eddy, who died April 30 at 86, had 16 top-40 singles through 1963, including "Rebel Rouser" in 1958, which took off when Dick Clark aired it on his popular TV dance show *American Bandstand*.

Recognizable for his big ol' hollow-body Gretsch and slick 1950s hairdo, Eddy enjoyed mainstream fame before the advent of music's British Invasion. His distinctive electric guitar sound paved the way for the surfer-music craze of the 1960s and inspired later rock icons George Harrison, Jimi Hendrix, and Bruce Springsteen. Eddy also experimented in the production studio, creating unusual reverb and echoing effects that influenced Phil Spector's "wall of sound."

Born in Corning, New York, Eddy first picked up a guitar at age 5. His family eventually settled in Tucson, Arizona, when Eddy was 13. Though he never learned to read or write music, Eddy had a sharp ear and a knack for guitar picking, taking inspiration from guitarists Chet Atkins and Les Paul.

In the 1980s, his work on a remake of the theme from *Peter Gunn* with the British techno-pop group The Art of Noise put Eddy back in the spotlight. It was a top-10 hit in the U.K. and won a best-instrumental Grammy Award in 1986. Eddy was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1994.

RICHARD TANDY

MUSICIAN

B. 1948 Richard Tandy came out of the lively Birmingham, U.K., music scene in the early 1970s. His virtuoso keyboard playing soon caught the attention of Electric Light Orchestra's frontman and founder Jeff Lynne. Tandy joined ELO after its 1971 debut album and became essential to the group's distinctive prog-rock, electric-opera sound, including on the hits "Evil Woman" and "Strange Magic." Tandy's vocoder-altered voice can be heard on the 1977 hit "Mr. Blue Sky." He played synthesizer, Wurlitzer electric piano, Clavinet, Mellotron, and piano for ELO until the band broke up in 1986, and again in 2014 for the group known as Jeff Lynne's ELO. Tandy was 76 when he died; Lynne announced his friend's death on May 1.

FRANK STELLA

ARTIST

B. 1936 American artist Frank Stella had already made his mark on the minimalist art scene by the time he was in his early 20s. After graduating from Princeton University in 1958, he moved to New York City and was featured in an exhibition at MOMA the following year. Stella rejected critics' efforts to interpret his work, saying, "What you see is what you see," which became a motto for the minimalist movement. In his early period, he abandoned typical square canvases in favor of shapes. In 1969, the Metropolitan Museum of Art commissioned him to create the logo for their centennial celebrations. Later in his career, Stella began to incorporate more three-dimensional sculptural elements in his work, which he called "maximalist." From there, he moved to full-scale public installations, including a massive 10-ton sculpture outside the National Gallery of Art. Stella died May 12 at age 87.

BERNARD HILL

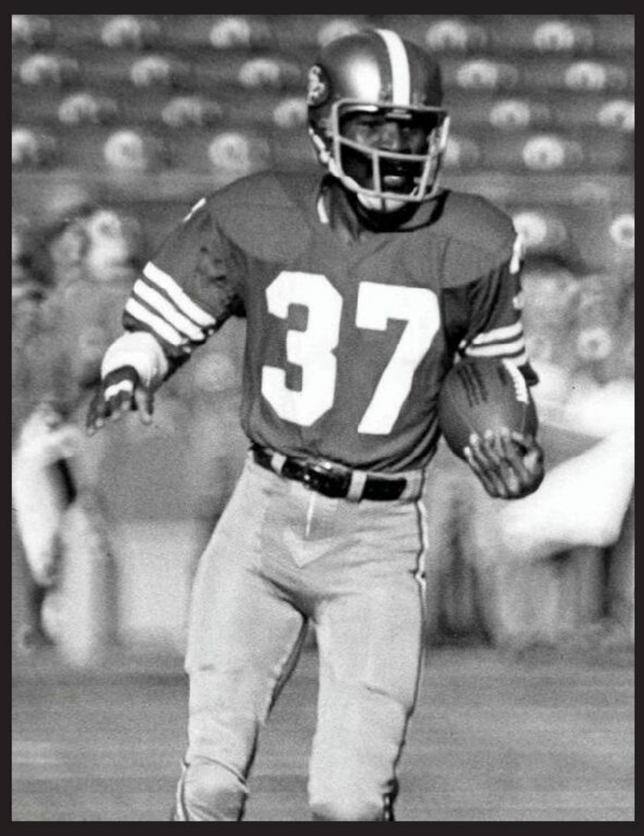
ACTOR

B. 1944 British actor Bernard Hill, who to American audiences is probably best known for his roles as Captain Smith in *Titanic* (1997) and King Theoden in the *Lord of the Rings* franchise, got his first big break across the pond as the down-and-out Yosser Hughes in the early '80s BBC miniseries *Boys from the Blackstuff*, which was set in Liverpool. His Hughes character, who lost his job and wife and struggled to care for his kids while keeping his pride intact, often muttered the catchphrase, "Gizza job. Go on, gizza job. I can do that." The phrase came to symbolize the public's anger against Margaret Thatcher's austerity measures at the time. Hill continued to appear in TV shows and films for the next 40 years until his death on May 5. He was 79.

JEANNIE EPPER

STUNTPERSON

B. 1941 You may not recognize her name, but if you were a fan of the 1970s TV series *Wonder Woman*, *The Bionic Woman*, or *Charlie's Angels*, you've seen Jeannie Epper's work. She was the regular stunt double for Lynda Carter, Lindsay Wagner, and Kate Jackson, respectively. If you recall Kathleen Turner's epic mudslide scene in the 1984 film *Romancing the Stone*, that was Epper too. Her career spanned 70 years (she started at age 9). Epper appeared in more than 150 TV shows and films, and she co-founded the Stuntwomen's Association of Motion Pictures in the late '60s to advocate for women in the field. Epper died May 5 in Simi Valley, California, at age 83.



JIMMY JOHNSON

FOOTBALL PLAYER

B. 1938 Pro Football Hall of Fame cornerback Jimmy Johnson, who played his entire 16-season career with the San Francisco 49ers, died May 8 at age 86. At the time of his retirement in 1976, he had 47 interceptions, a team record until fellow 49er Ronnie Lott beat it. He would have had dozens more, but quarterbacks stopped throwing in his direction, teammate John Brodie told the Pro Football Hall of Fame, "Talk to veteran quarterbacks like John Unitas and Bart Starr, and they'll tell you they call few pass patterns in Jimmy's area. The only reason Johnson doesn't lead the league in interceptions is he doesn't get the chance." Johnson also led the 49ers in games played, 213, until NFL great Jerry Rice surpassed him. He won the George Halas Award in 1972, was a Pro Bowl selection five times, was named on the NFL 1970s All-Decade Team, and his 49ers No. 37 jersey was retired in 1977.

JON URBANCHEK

SWIMMING COACH

B. 1936 Jon Urbanchek was 20 years old in 1956 when the Soviets crushed the Hungarian Uprising in his home country, forcing him to to flee. He landed in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and enrolled at the University of Michigan. There, he helped the Wolverines swimming team take NCAA D1 titles in 1959 and 1961. He took the head coach job at Michigan State in 1982, where he won 13 Big Ten Conference titles, retiring in 2004. He was a coach for U.S. Olympics teams from 1988 to 2012; his swimmers won 21 medals (11 golds). Urbanchek was inducted into the National Swimming Hall of Fame in 2008 and received the International Olympic Committee's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2017. He died May 9 in Fullerton, California, at age 87.

ROGER CORMAN

FILM PRODUCER, DIRECTOR, & ACTOR

B. 1926 Roger Corman, aka The Pope of Pop Cinema, died May 9 in Santa Monica, California. He was 98. Corman, who produced more than 300 films and directed dozens more in his decades-long career, was an industrial engineer out of college but quickly abandoned the sciences and landed a job as a mail-room messenger at 20th Century Fox.

During the 1950s, Corman tested his writing and directing chops and produced his first sci-fi film, *Monster from the Ocean Floor,* in 1954. Critics didn't love it, but it made enough money for him to produce his second film, *The Fast and the Furious*, in 1955, the title of which he licensed to Universal Pictures in 2001. He dabbled in Westerns, horror, heist films, and film noir. The 1958 biopic *Machine-Gun Kelly*, which starred tough-guy Charles Bronson in the title role, was Corman's first film to receive critical praise.

In 1959, Corman founded The Filmgroup with his brother, Gene, to create and distribute low-budget black-and-white films, including the 1960 cult classic *The Little Shop of Horrors*, which was reportedly shot for $35,000 over two days. But Corman grew tired of shoestring budgets and paired with American International Pictures (AIP) to direct the 1960 hit horror film *House of Usher* which was shot in color and starred Vincent Price. Seven more Corman-Poe films followed. He continued to produce and direct throughout the rest of his life.

Many notable filmmakers got their start with Corman: Francis Ford Coppola, Martin Scorsese, Ron Howard, Peter Bogdanovich, just to name a few. And he also gave many award-winning actors their breaks, including Jack Nicholson, Peter Fonda, Robert DiNiro, Sandra Bullock, and Tommy Lee Jones.

MARY WELLS LAWRENCE

ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE

B. 1928 Mary Wells Lawrence, the first female CEO of a company listed on the New York Stock Exchange and the first woman to own and run an advertising agency, died May 11 in London at age 95. Born the daughter of a furniture salesman in Youngstown, Ohio, Lawrence started her career in the ad department at Macy's in the 1950s, but quickly moved up the ranks in the agency world, eventually starting her own, Wells Rich Greene, in 1966. Some of their ubiquitous ads were Alka-Seltzer's "Plop plop, fizz fizz," commercials, the "I (heart) New York" tourism campaign, "Trust the Midas touch," and "Flick your Bic." Lawerence was honored with a Golden Plate Award by the American Academy of Achievement in 1969 and was inducted into the American Advertising Hall of Fame in 1999.

ALICE MUNRO

WRITER & NOBEL PRIZE WINNER

B. 1931 Canadian short-story writer Alice Munro, who won the 2013 Nobel Prize in literature, died in Port Hope, Ontario, Canada, on May 13. She was 92. Munro set many of her short stories in rural southwestern Ontario, densely packing complex characters and themes into just a few pages—craftsmanship that critics and other writers described as near perfection. *Dance of the Happy Shades* (1968), her first collection of stories, won her first of three Governor General's Literary Awards in Canada. She also received the Man Booker International Prize in 2009. Shortly after Munro's death, her youngest daughter revealed that she had been sexually abused by her stepfather as a child—and that, when Munro learned of it, she stood by his side.

DABNEY COLEMAN

ACTOR

B. 1932 Dabney Coleman made his fortune in Hollywood playing a particular kind of bad guy—the conniving, arrogant, bigoted boor, who also was disarmingly charming and funny. Coleman, who died May 16 at 92, is best known for playing the chauvinist boss Franklin Hart Jr. in the 1980 blockbuster *9 to 5*. That role made him famous, but Coleman had been on the verge of fame for years before landing it.

His first big part, the one Coleman told A.V. Club marked "the turning point in my career," was Merle Jeeter, the sleazy mayor of fictional Fernwood in the late-night TV soap-opera parody *Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman*. His casting in the 1976 show coincided with his having grown a mustache, which became essential to his career. "There's no question that when I grew that, all of a sudden, everything changed," he later told *Vulture*.

Born in Texas—he never quite lost the drawl—Coleman attended Virginia Military Institute and the University of Texas before moving to New York to study acting. He befriended the aspiring director Sydney Pollack and would later act in several of Pollack's movies, including *Tootsie* (1982).

Most of his career was in TV. Coleman had starring roles in three comedy series, in which he played basically the same slimy-but-likeable guy, but only one, the 1983 sitcom *Buffalo Bill*, made it beyond its debut year. He earned two best-actor Emmy nominations for the show, which was canceled after two seasons. Coleman's only Emmy win, for best supporting actor, was in a serious role: He played a vilified lawyer defending a serial killer in the TV movie *Sworn to Silence* (1987).

In recent years, Coleman had recurring roles in *The Guardian*, *Boardwalk Empire*, and *Yellowstone*. Coleman died on May 16 at age 92.

JIM OTTO

FOOTBALL PLAYER

B. 1938 Football Hall of Famer Jim Otto, who died May 19 at age 86, played his entire career, 1960-74, as center for the Raiders in Oakland. He took a beating in the job but never missed a game. He had 210 consecutive league starts. Otto wore jersey No. 00, a play on his name "Aught-Oh," and became key to the team's dominant offensive line in the late '60s. "I'm going to hit you like nobody else," he told PBS in 2012, explaining his drive on the field. But those hits resulted in hundreds of injuries, dozens of surgeries, and eventually, in 2007, the amputation of his right leg.

MORGAN SPURLOCK

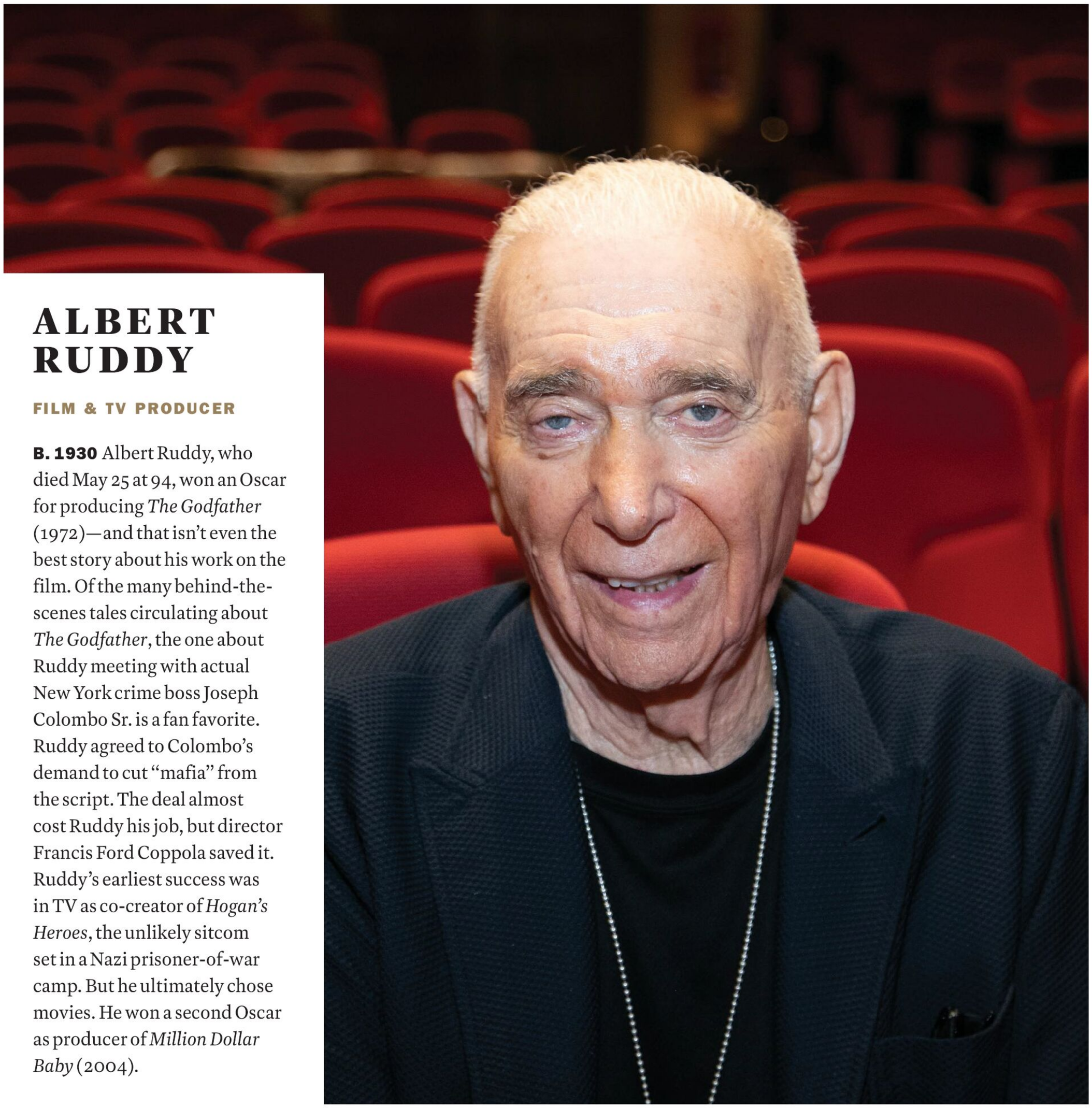
FILMMAKER

B. 1970 Morgan Spurlock found fame as creator and star of the 2004 documentary *Super Size Me*, in which he ate only McDonald's food for a month, supersizing meals whenever asked, and chronicled the results in his widening waistband and worsening health. The movie earned $22 million and an Oscar nomination, and made healthy eating a topic of national debate. McDonald's phased out supersizing before the movie's release, timing some found too coincidental. Spurlock's career effectively ended in 2017, when he admitted to sexually harassing a former assistant. He also said he'd been an alcoholic for 30 years, which cast questionable light on the health problems, including liver dysfunction, raised in *Super Size Me*. Spurlock died of cancer at 53 on May 23.

ALBERT RUDDY

FILM & TV PRODUCER

B. 1930 Albert Ruddy, who died May 25 at 94, won an Oscar for producing *The Godfather* (1972)—and that isn't even the best story about his work on the film. Of the many behind-the-scenes tales circulating about *The Godfather*, the one about Ruddy meeting with actual New York crime boss Joseph Colombo Sr. is a fan favorite. Ruddy agreed to Colombo's demand to cut "mafia" from the script. The deal almost cost Ruddy his job, but director Francis Ford Coppola saved it. Ruddy's earliest success was in TV as co-creator of *Hogan's Heroes*, the unlikely sitcom set in a Nazi prisoner-of-war camp. But he ultimately chose movies. He won a second Oscar as producer of *Million Dollar Baby* (2004).



RICHARD SHERMAN

SONGWRITER

B. 1928 Richard Sherman and his older brother Robert were the musical voice of Disney for decades. They won two Oscars for their music for *Mary Poppins* (1964)—for best song and best score. But as staff songwriters for Walt Disney Studios, their work extended to dozens of movies, including *The Jungle Book* (1967) and *Bedknobs and Broomsticks* (1971), TV shows, and theme parks. "It's a Small World (After All)," for the Disney theme-park ride, is among their most loved—or hated—songs, depending on the listener's tolerance for sweet. "People want to kiss us or kill us," Richard later said of the tune. He died May 25 at 95.

BILL WALTON

BASKETBALL PLAYER

B. 1952 Basketball's Bill Walton, who died of cancer May 27 at age 71, was the rare player who forged new fame off the court, especially in the broadcasting booth, where he was an Emmy-winning sportscaster. Late in his life, Walton also scored a bestseller with his 2016 memoir *Back from the Dead*, a moving, often harrowing, account of his overcoming a debilitating spinal collapse in 2008.

Walton grew up outside San Diego. He had a pronounced stutter, which made him shy. He got into basketball early on and won two state championships with his high school team. "The concept of team has always been the most intriguing aspect of basketball to me," he said when he was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1993. "If I had been interested in individual success or individual sport, I would have taken up tennis or golf. I chose basketball…"

As the 6-foot-11 center at University of California-Los Angeles under legendary coach John Wooden, Walton was a consummate team player, known as much for his passing as for his scoring, blocking, and rebounding. He led UCLA to NCAA titles in 1972 and '73, then headed to the Portland Trail Blazers as the No. 1 draft pick in '74, where he took the team to its only NBA championship in 1977. Walton's career was hampered by injuries. He underwent dozens of operations, primarily in his feet and ankles. Even so, he won another national championship with the Boston Celtics in 1986 before retiring in 1988.

Walton considered his learning how to speak as "my greatest accomplishment and everybody else's worse nightmare." A lifelong fan of the Grateful Dead—he went to 859 Dead shows—he would quote from their songs in long, charming tangents as a color commentator. "I learned from them how to become a champion," Walton told *Salon.com* in 2016. "I am the human being that I am today because of the Grateful Dead."

LARRY ALLEN

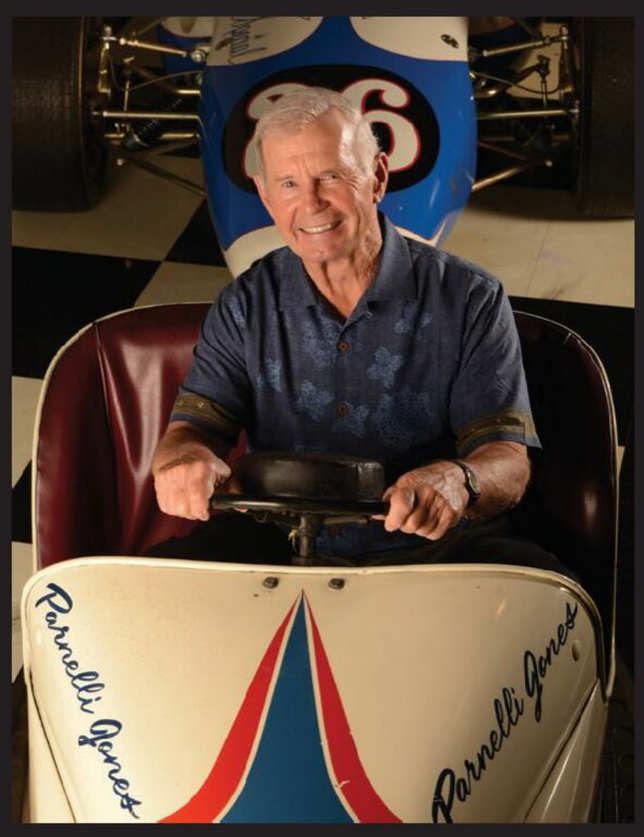
FOOTBALL PLAYER

B. 1971 In his 14 seasons with the NFL, primarily with the Dallas Cowboys, Larry Allen was named to the Pro Bowl 11 times and won a Super Bowl championship. Allen, who died June 2 at age 52, was inducted into football's Hall of Fame in 2013. On the offensive line for the Cowboys, Allen was known for his crushing blocks. Big, even by NFL standards, at 6-foot-3 and around 325 pounds, Allen also was fast and agile. In 1994, his rookie year, he chased down speedy New Orleans Saints linebacker Darion Conner who had intercepted Troy Aikman, in "one of the most impressive athletic feats that I have ever seen," said *Monday Night Football* analyst Dan Dierdorf.

BROTHER MARQUIS

MUSICIAN

B. 1967 Mark Ross, better known as rapper Brother Marquis, joined the influential and controversial 2 Live Crew in 1986, as it was gaining fame in the nascent Miami hip-hop scene. The band's best selling third album, *As Nasty as They Wanna Be* (1989), which included the Top-40 hit "Me So Horny," challenged decency laws. A Florida judge declared it obscene, which the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned in 1992—a groundbreaking ruling for the genre. 2 Live Crew "set a legal precedent for hip-hop artists today to be able to create in the way that they choose to," hip-hop historian Kiana Fitzgerald told NPR in 2023. Brother Marquis died June 3. He was 58.



PARNELLI JONES

AUTO RACER

B. 1933 Growing up in car-obsessed Southern California, Rufus Parnell Jones started racing jalopies when he was 17 using a fake ID under the name "Parnellie Jones" that said he was 21—he later dropped the last "e." Jones went on to have seven starts in the Indianapolis 500. He shared Rookie of the Year honors in 1961 and won Indy in 1963. One of racing's best generalists, Jones also drove stock cars (NASCAR), sports cars, and off-road vehicles. He twice won the grueling Baja 1000, a bear of an off-road race run mostly through Mexican desert. In the 1970s, he co-owned a team that sponsored Al Unser Sr., among others. He died June 4 at 90.

CHET WALKER

BASKETBALL PLAYER

B. 1940 Seven-time NBA All-Star Chet "The Jet" Walker was considered one of the best forwards in the league, first with the Philadelphia 76ers and later with the Chicago Bulls. In the 1966-67 season, Walker, with teammates Wilt Chamberlain, Hal Greer, and Billy Cunningham, made the 76ers the league's top team, winning 68 games and the championship. He grew up in Benton Harbor, Michigan, and earned a basketball scholarship to Bradley University. He joined the NBA in 1963 and played 14 seasons. Walker, who died June 8 at 84, became a film producer after leaving basketball. His 1989 TV series *A Mother's Courage*, about Mary Thomas, mother of NBA great Isiah Thomas, won an Emmy for Outstanding Children's Program.

WILLIAM ANDERS

ASTRONAUT

B. 1933 William Anders flew in the first manned orbit of the moon in December 1968, a mission that had the crew taking photographs of the moon's surface and scouting possible landing sites for the lunar module. After 20 hours and four orbits of the moon, Anders glanced over his shoulder and saw Earth rising over the gray lunar landscape.

Anders then snapped one of the most famous photos in history. "Earthrise," shot on Christmas Eve, shows our marbled blue-and-white planet, "like a Christmas tree ornament," Anders later said, beautiful and impossibly fragile, suspended in ink-black space.

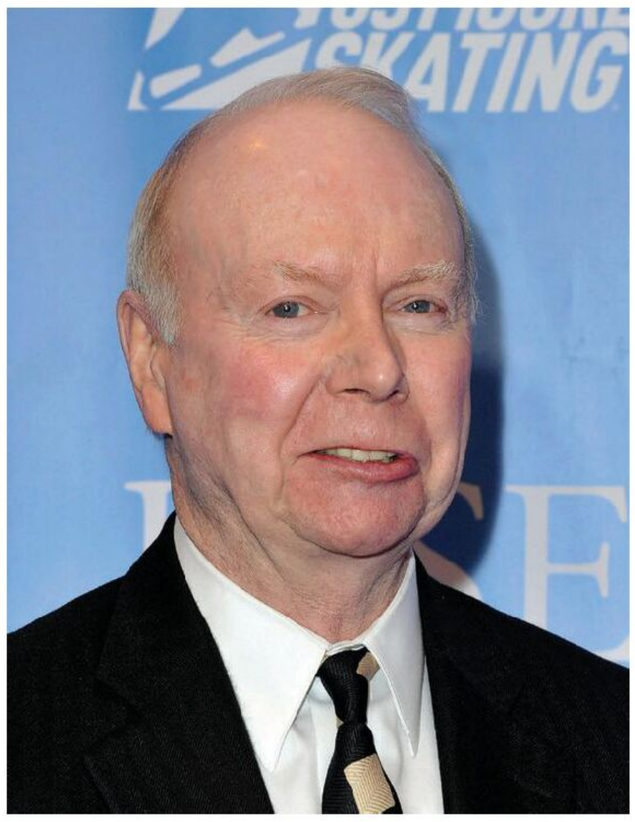
An instant sensation, the picture filled people with wonder at the end of a turbulent year. The image of the planet seeming so alone and vulnerable spurred the environmental movement that led to the first Earth Day in 1970.

Anders and his fellow *Apollo 8* astronauts, Capt. James A. Lovell Jr. and Col. Frank Borman, were TIME's Person of the Year in 1968.

Anders earned his master's degree and was an expert in space radiation. He got into the space program because of his education, the first of what he called "egghead" astronauts, distinct from NASA's cowboy test pilots, who looked down on them. "We basically figured out real fast that we were at the bottom of the totem pole," he said later. Even so, it took someone with the discipline of scientific observation to see something special in the heavens that other pilots missed.

"Here we came all the way to the moon to discover Earth," he told *Forbes* in 2015.

Anders was 90 when the plane he was piloting crashed off the coast of Seattle on June 7.



FRANK CARROLL

FIGURE SKATING COACH

B. 1938 Inspired by multiple champion U.S. skater Dick Button, Frank Carroll began figure skating as a kid on an outdoor pond near his home in Worcester, Massachusetts. Later, under the tutelage of coach Maribel Vinson-Owen, Carroll won national junior singles bronze medals in 1959 and 1960. Vinson-Owen died in a plane crash in 1960, but her training rituals and philosophy stuck with Carroll. Using her methods and others he devised in more than 60 years as a renowned skating coach, he would guide Linda Fratianne and Nancy Kwan to world championships and Olympic silver medals, and Evan Lysacek to a gold medal in the 2010 Olympics. Carroll died June 9 at age 85.

JAMES LAWSON

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST

B. 1928 The Rev. James Lawson was the chief strategist of the nonviolent protests of the Civil Rights movement. He trained protesters, including John Lewis and Diane Nash, on how to absorb blows in preparation for lunch-counter sit-ins in Nashville. He'd moved to Tennessee, continuing his theology studies at Vanderbilt, at the behest of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Growing up in Ohio, Lawson would punch another child who called him racist names. But his mother urged him to "find another way." Lawson later traveled to India, where he was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi. He was jailed several times and kicked out of Vanderbilt for protesting. "We had no choice," Lawson said at Lewis's funeral. "We recognized the wrong under which we were forced to live." He died June 9 at age 95.

JERRY WEST

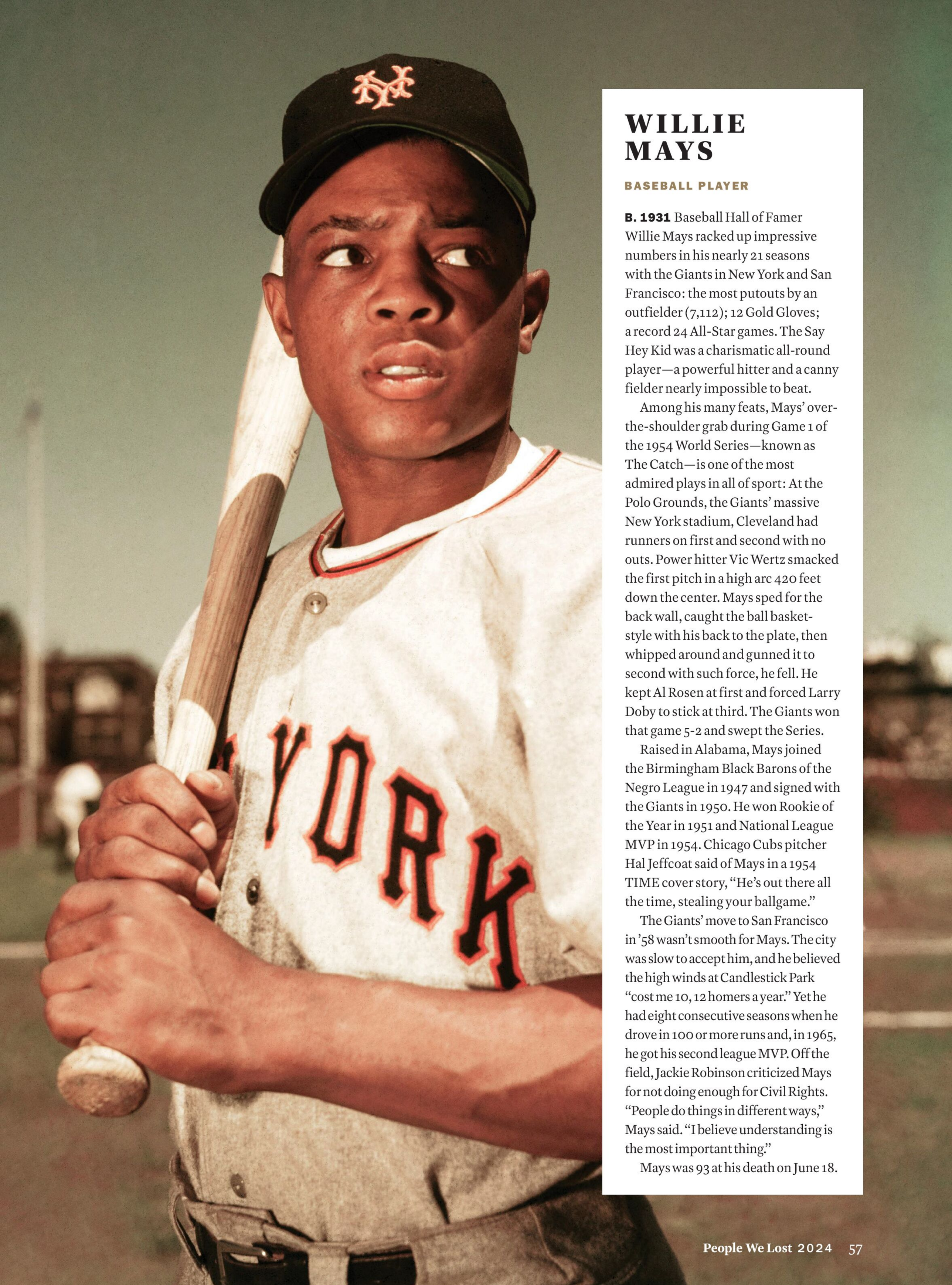
BASKETBALL PLAYER, COACH, & EXECUTIVE

B. 1938 Basketball Hall of Famer Jerry West, known as "Mr. Clutch" for his many buzzer-beaters with the Los Angeles Lakers—including a legendary 60-footer in a 1970 finals game against the New York Knicks—had a graceful dribbling form that was the inspiration for the NBA logo. West, who died June 12 at 86, led the Lakers to nine NBA finals in the 1960s and 1970s, finally winning in 1972. In 1969, he won the finals' MVP—still the only player on a losing team to earn the award. West became coach and then, in 1982, the Lakers' general manager, building championship-winning teams that included Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Magic Johnson, Kobe Bryant, and Shaquille O'Neal.

HOWARD FINEMAN

JOURNALIST

B. 1948 Howard Fineman mastered the art of political coverage by sticking to the core values of journalism—be fair and come prepared. In almost 30 years as *Newsweek*'s chief political correspondent, and later as a TV pundit on MSNBC's *Hardball* and as a digital journalism pioneer with what was then the *Huffington Post*, Fineman had a reputation for being tough, tireless, and deeply knowledgeable about the system. His long experience covering Washington gave him uncommon insight into the workings of political campaigns. A native of Pittsburgh, Fineman studied English at Colgate, journalism at Columbia, and law at the University of Louisville. His work was part of National Magazine Award-winning coverage at *Newsweek* at least three times. Fineman died June 11. He was 75.



WILLIE MAYS

BASEBALL PLAYER

B. 1931 Baseball Hall of Famer Willie Mays racked up impressive numbers in his nearly 21 seasons with the Giants in New York and San Francisco: the most putouts by an outfielder (7,112); 12 Gold Gloves; a record 24 All-Star games. The Say Hey Kid was a charismatic all-round player—a powerful hitter and a canny fielder nearly impossible to beat.

Among his many feats, Mays' over-the-shoulder grab during Game 1 of the 1954 World Series—known as The Catch—is one of the most admired plays in all of sport: At the Polo Grounds, the Giants' massive New York stadium, Cleveland had runners on first and second with no outs. Power hitter Vic Wertz smacked the first pitch in a high arc 420 feet down the center. Mays sped for the back wall, caught the ball basket-style with his back to the plate, then whipped around and gunned it to second with such force, he fell. He kept Al Rosen at first and forced Larry Doby to stick at third. The Giants won that game 5-2 and swept the Series.

Raised in Alabama, Mays joined the Birmingham Black Barons of the Negro League in 1947 and signed with the Giants in 1950. He won Rookie of the Year in 1951 and National League MVP in 1954. Chicago Cubs pitcher Hal Jeffcoat said of Mays in a 1954 TIME cover story, "He's out there all the time, stealing your ballgame."

The Giants' move to San Francisco in '58 wasn't smooth for Mays. The city was slow to accept him, and he believed the high winds at Candlestick Park "cost me 10, 12 homers a year." Yet he had eight consecutive seasons when he drove in 100 or more runs and, in 1965, he got his second league MVP. Off the field, Jackie Robinson criticized Mays for not doing enough for Civil Rights. "People do things in different ways," Mays said. "I believe understanding is the most important thing."

Mays was 93 at his death on June 18.

DONALD SUTHERLAND

ACTOR

B. 1935 At 6-foot-4 with a mop of wild hair and piercing blue eyes set on a long, long face, actor Donald Sutherland was an unmistakable presence on screen. He came of age as an actor in the '60s and '70s, when filmmakers prized unconventional looks to match their experimental ideas. Even so, over his 60 years as an actor, Sutherland never allowed his appearance to outshine a role. He sank utterly into character each time.

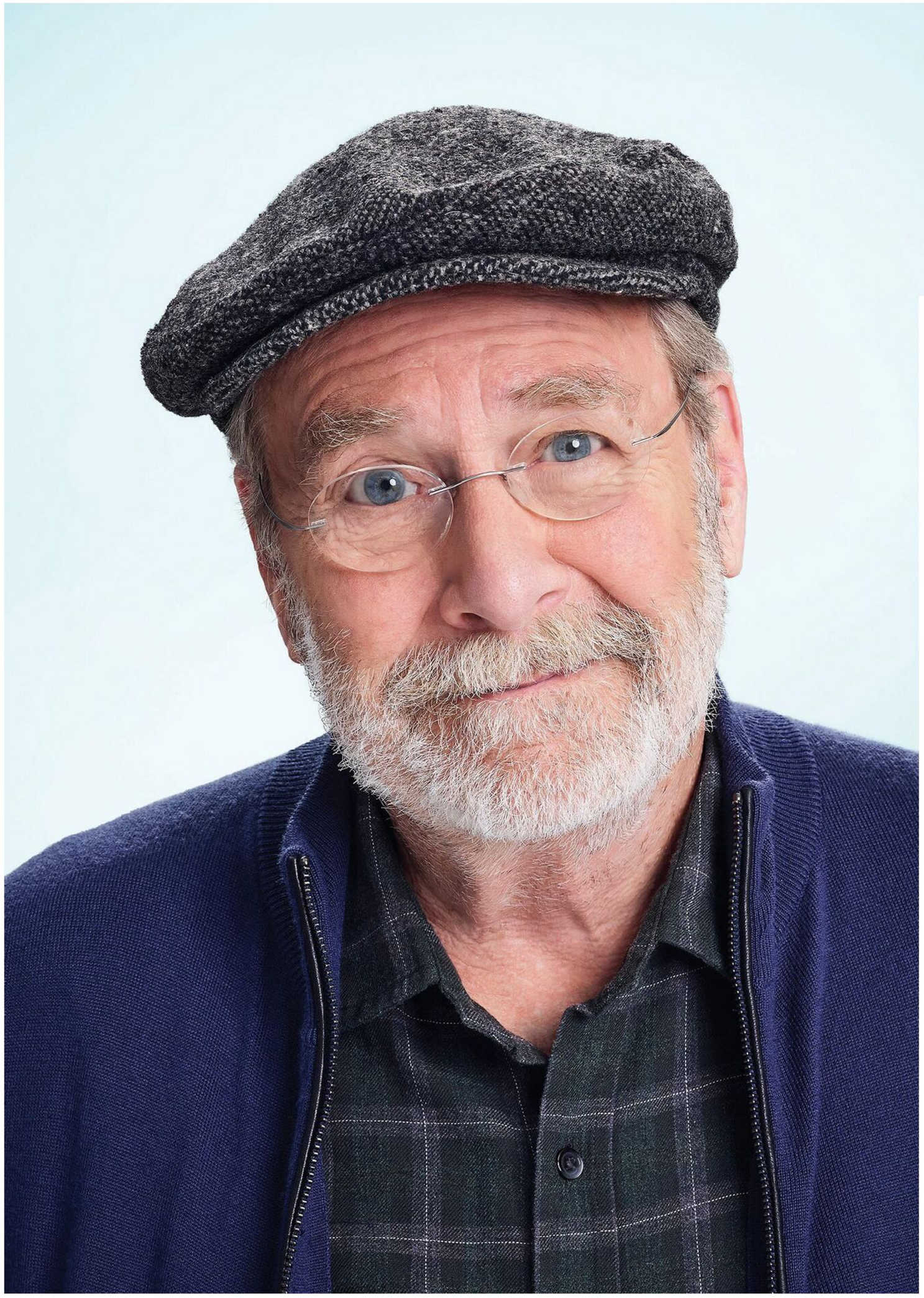
He easily shapeshifted from dumb-as-rocks foot soldier in *The Dirty Dozen* (1967) to sardonic surgeon in Robert Altman's *M*A*S*H* (1970) to conflicted detective in *Klute* (1971) to grieving father in *Don't Look Now* (1973) to steely assassin in *Eye of the Needle* (1981). Arguably his greatest performance was as another grieving father, one irrevocably torn between his wife and suicidal son, in Robert Redford's *Ordinary People* (1980). Though the film won four Oscars and all of Sutherland's co-stars were nominated (including Timothy Hutton, who won), Sutherland's luminous portrayal of a man crumbling under the weight of his family's loss was overlooked.

He was never nominated for an Oscar. In 2017, the Academy recognized its myopia and awarded him an honorary statuette.

Raised in Nova Scotia, Sutherland dabbled in acting as a teenager before attending the University of Toronto. After graduating, he moved to England where he landed roles in several TV shows, including *The Saint*, which led to his big break on *Dirty Dozen*.

Sutherland continued to work well into his 80s, including as evil President Snow in *The Hunger Games* movies (2010s) and the 2023 Paramount+ series *Lawmen: Bass Reeves*. After he died June 20 at 88, Sutherland's co-stars spoke of his disarming generosity as an actor.

His memoir, *Made Up, But Still True,* was published in 2024.



MARTIN MULL

COMEDIAN & ACTOR

B. 1943 Comedian Martin Mull was so deadpan, audiences sometimes wondered whether he was joking. He was, always. As his daughter Maggie wrote in announcing his death at 80 on June 27, "He was never not funny." Droll and cerebral, Mull had many talents. He studied fine art at Rhode Island School of Design and painted all his life. In the '70s, he toured as a singer-songwriter of comic songs. Mull first acted on the soap parody *Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman*, and starred in its sequel *Fernwood 2-Night*. His occasional film roles included Colonel Mustard in *Clue* (1985), but he worked steadily in TV for over 40 years. Mull was nominated for an Emmy in 2016 as an aging campaign fixer on *Veep*.

ORLANDO CEPEDA

BASEBALL PLAYER

B. 1937 Orlando Cepeda got a home run in his very first game as a San Francisco Giant in 1958 and went on to be Rookie of the Year. Cepeda, a Hall of Famer who died June 28 at age 86, was a fan favorite and powerful slugger, but in 1965 he severely injured his knee sliding into base. He had surgery but was traded to St. Louis, where, in a stunning comeback, he led the Cardinals to the 1967 World Series championship and won league MVP. His knee still plagued him, threatening his career, but Cepeda was able to play his last two seasons in baseball as a designated hitter after the American League allowed the position in 1973.

AUDREY FLACK

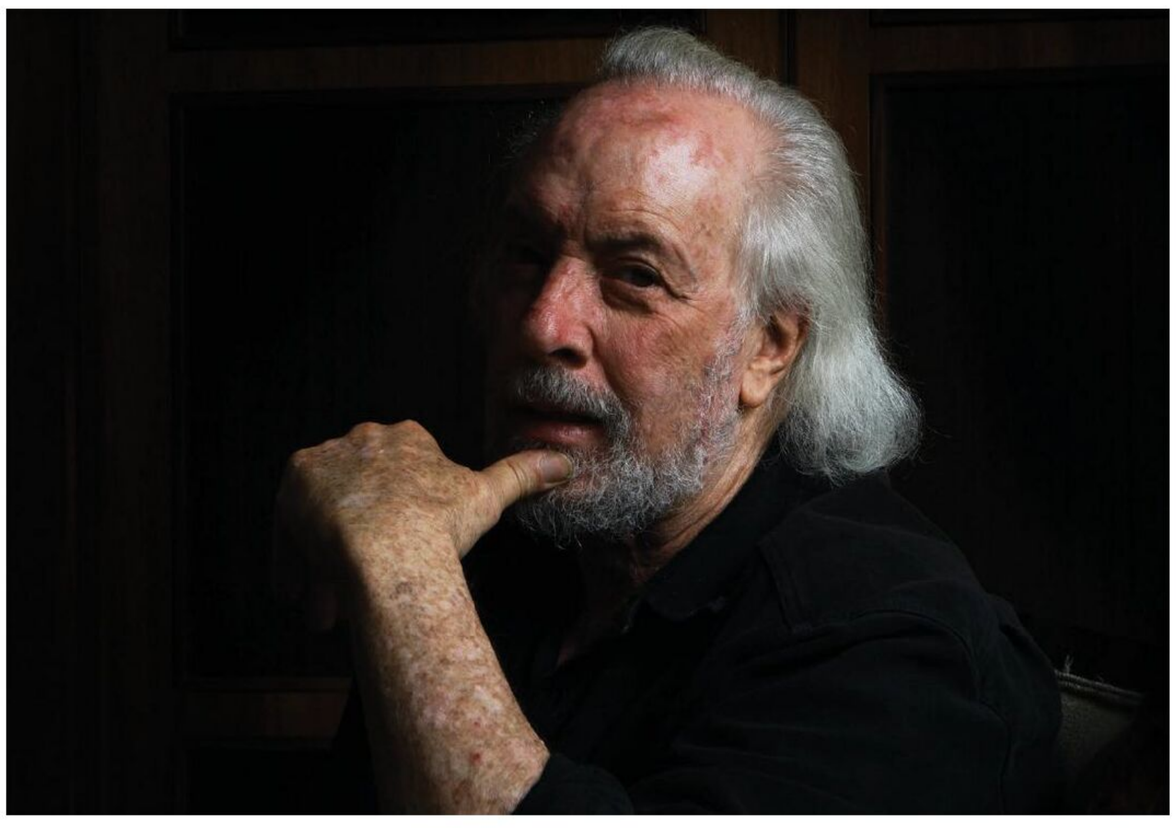
ARTIST

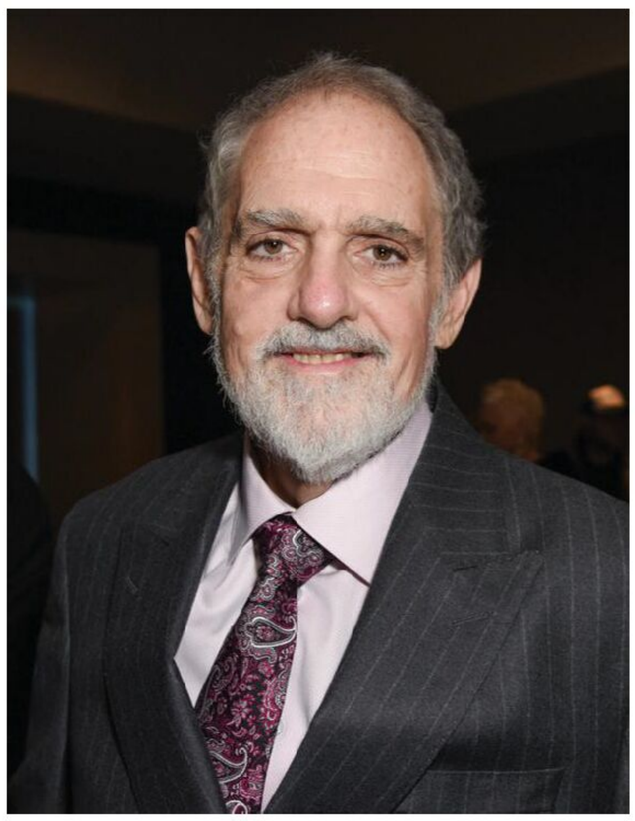
B. 1931 Audrey Flack, who died June 28 at age 93, created art in bold color and massive scale over a 70-year career that saw her works acquired by museums all over the world. A New York native, Flack trained in abstract expressionism in the early '50s but lost interest in it and embraced photorealism—painting from photographs. She revived vanitas, the 17th-century Dutch still-life art that depict realistic displays of objects—skulls, orange peels—to represent life's impermanence. Flack's versions reflect on the complex, often hidden, world of women. Critics could be harsh, accusing her of being too literal, but she maintained that she sought "an audience that has been ignored and intimidated for many years."

ROBERT TOWNE

SCREENWRITER & DIRECTOR

B. 1934 In scripts that explored the gloomy realities of life, writer Robert Towne was the voice of New Hollywood in the 1970s. Towne blended an uncommon ear for dialog with an understanding of the unique demands of filmmaking to create stories, such as his Oscar-winning *Chinatown* (1974), that were evocative and distinctly for and of the screen, his preferred medium. "I think movies best communicate whatever I have to say and show," he wrote in 1991. A California native, Towne started in Hollywood as a script doctor; he worked uncredited on *Bonnie and Clyde* (1967) and *The Godfather* (1972), among others. He died July 1 at 89.





JON LANDAU

FILM PRODUCER

B. 1960 Jon Landau, longtime producing partner of director James Cameron, oversaw three of the biggest blockbusters of all time, all Cameron pictures: *Titanic* (1997), *Avatar* (2009), and *Avatar: The Way of Water* (2022). "Jim dreams the dreams," Landau said of Cameron, "and it's my job to make them a reality." He shared the Best Picture Oscar with Cameron for *Titanic*—a vindication of Landau's herculean efforts to get the movie made after it ballooned over budget before filming started. Landau was just 29 when he became executive vice president of feature productions at 20th Century Fox. Among his projects was Cameron's *True Lies* (1994), which marked the start of their friendship. Landau died July 5 at age 63.

VIC SEIXAS

TENNIS PLAYER

B. 1923 Vic Seixas won 15 Grand Slam tennis tournaments in the 1950s. Until his death July 5 at 100, he was the oldest living Grand Slam champion. Born in Philadelphia, Seixas began playing tennis as a child. He amassed 56 amateur titles by the time he retired in 1970, though he regarded his win at Wimbledon in 1953 to be "the thrill of my life in tennis." The game back then wasn't the lucrative sport of today: His "purse" at Wimbledon was a 25-pound gift certificate good at any shop in London's Piccadilly Circus. Seixas also served in World War II as an Army Air Corps test pilot and flight instructor in the South Pacific.

KHYREE JACKSON

FOOTBALL PLAYER

B. 1999 Khyree Jackson, a fourth-round draft pick for the Minnesota Vikings, was a promising 24-year-old rookie cornerback when he died July 6 in a car crash near his Maryland hometown of Upper Marlboro. Jackson came out of the football program at Henry Wise High School in Upper Marlboro, which has multiple state championships. Two of his former teammates at Wise, Anthony Lytton Jr. and Isaiah Hazel, also died in the crash. Before the NFL draft in April, Jackson credited Lytton and Hazel with motivating him to return to college football after a two-year hiatus. He played two seasons in Alabama then transferred in 2023 as a senior to the University of Oregon, where he had three interceptions and two sacks.

JOE ENGLE

ASTRONAUT

B. 1932 Joe Engle, who flew both the experimental rocket-powered X-15 airplane and the space shuttle, died July 10 at 91. He was the last surviving pilot of the X-15 program, 1959-65, which was designed to test hypersonic travel. In 1965, he flew the X-15 to an altitude of 53 miles and a speed of 3,431 mph, a feat that earned him his astronaut wings. Born in Kansas, Engle trained under famed flier Chuck Yeager at Edwards Air Force Base in California. Engle was chosen for the Apollo program but never went to the moon. He returned to space as commander of shuttles *Columbia* in 1981 and *Discovery* in 1985.

SHELLEY DUVALL

ACTOR

B. 1949 Shelley Duvall never set out to be an actor. But in 1970, she was at a party in Houston, Texas, where she tried to sell her boyfriend's art to some visiting Hollywood people. They were from the set of *Brewster McCloud* (1970), which director Robert Altman was filming nearby. All were charmed by Duvall's manner and unusual looks—wafer thin, porcelain skin, and large brown eyes—and suggested she meet Altman. He immediately cast her in *Brewster* and Duvall went on to act in several more Altman films, including *McCabe and Mrs. Miller* (1971), *Nashville* (1975), *3 Women* (1977), for which she won best actress at Cannes, and *Popeye* (1980).

Her most memorable performance was not for Altman, but for the demanding Stanley Kubrick, who cast her as the terrorized wife in his unsettling psychological horror *The Shining* (1980). After seeing *3 Women* Kubrick said to her, "I like the way you cry," a comment that would prove prophetic: Duvall later told film critic Roger Ebert that her 13 months on the set of *The Shining* were "almost unbearable… My character had to cry 12 hours a day, all day long, the last nine months straight, five or six days a week."

Duvall continued acting, in *Time Bandits* (1981), *Roxanne* (1987), and *The Portrait of a Lady* (1996), among other movies. Beginning in 1982, she also became a producer of children's television. *Faerie Tale Theatre* ran for six seasons, followed by *Tall Tales and Legends* (1985-88) and *Shelley Duvall's Bedtime Stories* (1992-93).

Duvall moved back to Texas after the 1994 Northridge earthquake all but destroyed her California home. She gained new fans recently via TikTok, where makeup influencers post about recreating her unique 1970s look. Duvall's last screen appearance was in the 2023 indie horror *The Forest Hills*. She died July 11 at age 75.

RUTH WESTHEIMER

SEX THERAPIST

B. 1928 At 4-foot-7, with a thick German accent and a neat coif of reddish-blond hair, Dr. Ruth Westheimer may not have looked like anyone's idea of a sex therapist. But after 1980, when she debuted on a 15-minute radio program in New York, Dr. Ruth was the sex therapist everyone knew.

Westheimer, who died July 12 at age 96, was over 50 when she started taking listener questions for "Sexually Speaking," her late-night radio spot that quickly grew to two hours. By 1984, she had a TV show, while also appearing on talk shows and writing bestsellers. Her taglines "Have good sex!" and "Get some!" embodied her philosophy that feelings were nothing to be ashamed of.

She was born in Germany, the only child of an Orthodox Jewish couple, who doted on her. Westheimer later said that her happy childhood "was crucial in my whole *joie de vivre*" despite the terrible losses that followed. She never saw her family again after 1939, when her mother put her on a train to Switzerland to escape the Nazis.

In 1945, Westheimer reached Palestine and trained as a sniper with the Israeli defense force. During the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, she was hit by shrapnel and nearly lost her feet. By 1950, Westheimer was married and studying psychology at the Sorbonne in Paris. The marriage, her first of three, ended, but her studies continued in New York at the New School for Social Research. Once she had her doctorate, she went to Cornell to study under pioneering sex therapist Helen Singer-Kaplan.

In 2023, New York Gov. Kathy Hochul made Westheimer the state's first "ambassador to loneliness" to bring attention to the health threats posed by social isolation.

SHANNEN DOHERTY

ACTOR

B. 1971 Shannen Doherty grew up in the spotlight, first as a child actor, then as a teenage sensation in one of the hottest shows on TV. In her early 20s, at the height of her fame, she was labeled difficult to work with and spent the rest of her career trying to shake that reputation.

"I have felt misunderstood my whole life," she told *People* in 2019.

Born in Tennessee, Doherty moved with her family to Los Angeles in the late 1970s and got her first TV role at age 10 as Jenny Wilder on *Little House on the Prairie*. She also appeared on the NBC drama *Our House* before landing her breakthrough part as one of a quad of mean girls in the cult hit *Heathers* (1988).

Two years later, TV's Aaron Spelling made her the star of his high school gossip drama *Beverly Hills, 90210*. As Brenda Walsh, she was a naive Midwesterner navigating the mean halls of West Beverly High; marking her shift to the dark side was a popular pastime, complete with "I Hate Brenda" bumper stickers. Off-screen Doherty partied hard, got arrested for DUI, and clashed with her co-stars. The tabloids weren't kind. She was written out of the show in 1994. Her next big gig, on *Charmed*, lasted three seasons before she was again accused of antagonizing her co-stars and written out.

In 2015, Doherty revealed that she had breast cancer but continued to work after it went into remission. In late 2023, she announced the cancer had returned. She died July 13 at 53.

Meanwhile, in light of #MeToo, pop culture is reassessing Doherty's harsh treatment for behavior that some say was no worse than that of certain of her male cohorts. As a *New York Times* headline put it on a column by novelist Jennifer Weiner, "We owe Shannen Doherty an apology."

RICHARD SIMMONS

FITNESS INSTRUCTOR & TV PERSONALITY

B. 1948 Long before he became a fitness guru to the masses, Richard Simmons was a kid growing up in the high-calorie food culture of New Orleans. He weighed 268 pounds when he graduated from high school. In college, on an exchange program to Italy, another culinary bastion, he sometimes worked as a plus-size model. One day, after doing a promotion at a supermarket, he found a note on his car: "Fat people die young. Please don't die."

Simmons tried diet pills and other chemical aids to slim down. He lost 112 pounds in under three months, requiring a hospital stay. Searching for a healthier solution, he opened Slimmons, an exercise studio, in Los Angeles in 1974, leading lively fitness classes that attracted celebrities like Barbra Streisand, Joanne Woodward, and Diana Ross. He was an early proponent of the dancercise/aerobics craze popularized by Jane Fonda. But where Fonda projected an impossible Hollywood body standard, Simmons, in sequined tank tops and tiny shorts, looked like someone's fun cousin who'd lost a few pounds.

His mix of DIY glamour, positive energy, and campy moves appealed to a large sector of the population that was intimidated by hard-bodied gym rats. And though Simmons took good health seriously, he seemed never to take himself too seriously. *The Richard Simmons Show* (1980-84) included silly sketches with characters such as the Reverend Pounds: "Though I waddle through the valley of linguine and clams, I shall fear no evil."

Simmons toured, made popular videos, including a series of *Sweatin' to the Oldies* workouts, and taught at his studio well into the 2000s. But in 2014, he retreated from public life and closed Slimmons two years later. He was 76 when he died July 13.

NAOMI POMEROY

CHEF

B. 1974 A self-taught cook with an immaculate palate, Naomi Pomeroy put Portland, Oregon, on the culinary map. In the early 2000s, she and her first husband served impromptu dinners out of their home—starting the movement known as pop-up eating. Their business, Ripe, which included traditional restaurants, followed, but went bankrupt about five years later. Pomeroy started over with Beast, a tasting-style bistro that revolutionized Portland eating. In 2014, she won a James Beard award as best chef in the Northwest. She also competed on *Iron Chef* and *Top Chef Masters* and was a *Top Chef* judge. Pomeroy died in a tubing accident on Oregon's Willamette River on July 13. She was 49.

JACOBY JONES

FOOTBALL PLAYER

B. 1984 Jacoby Jones, an NFL receiver who held the record for longest kick return in the post season, died July 14 at age 40 of hypertensive cardiovascular disease. A third-round draft pick in 2007, Jones played for the Houston Texans for five years before going to Baltimore as a free agent. Fast and with great hands, Jones was key to the Ravens' winning the Super Bowl in 2013. In a playoff game that year against Denver, Jones caught a 70-yard pass from Baltimore's Joe Flacco and ran for a touchdown to tie the game. At the Super Bowl against San Francisco, he returned the second-half kickoff for a record 108 yards to give Baltimore a 28-6 lead.

CHENG PEI PEI

ACTOR

B. 1946 Cheng Pei Pei was known as the "Queen of Swords" for her athletic fighting in kung fu movies, especially *Come Drink With Me* (1966) by legendary martial-arts filmmaker King Hu. Born in Shanghai, Cheng was a ballet teacher in the early '60s when she moved to Hong Kong to be an actor. She signed with the Shaw Brothers, the famous Chinese production company that turned out dozens of martial-arts movies each year. Cheng moved to the United States in 1970 and retired from acting. Thirty years later, director Ang Lee persuaded her to act again, this time as one of cinema's great bad guys—Jade Fox—in *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* (2000). She died July 17 at age 78.

DUKE FAKIR

SINGER

B. 1935 Abdul "Duke" Fakir was one of the founding members of the seminal Motown group The Four Tops. He sang tenor on the group's many hits, including "I Can't Help Myself (Sugar Pie, Honey Bunch)" and "Reach Out, I'll Be There." Fakir kept The Four Tops going, touring with new singers after the deaths of the other three members, Levi Stubbs, Lawrence Payton, and Renaldo "Obie" Benson. His last shows were at the end of 2023. Of the group's many hits, Fakir's favorite was "Baby, I Need Your Loving" (1964). "It changed my life," he once said. "It even enabled me to buy my mama a house!" He died July 22 at age 88.

BOB NEWHART

COMEDIAN & ACTOR

B. 1929 Bob Newhart, who made one-sided phone conversations the stuff of comedy legend, was known for his droll, stammering delivery and clean-cut look. On stage, Newhart wore a suit like he was born in it. And in a way he was—at least his comedic persona was. Raised in Oak Park, Illinois, Newhart was in his 30s when he experimented with prank calls and short skits to stave off the boredom of being an accountant for the Glidden Co., the paint maker. He recorded some routines and had occasional spots on the radio in Chicago.

In 1959, a music executive heard his tapes and wanted to record Newhart doing a live show. But Newhart had never performed live. His first standup gig at a motor inn in Houston, Texas, became *The Button-Down Mind of Bob Newhart*. The record shot to the top of the charts and won the Grammy for album of the year in 1961, beating out the likes of Frank Sinatra and Nat King Cole.

In 1972 *The Bob Newhart Show* debuted on CBS. Newhart played a Chicago psychologist bemused by the peculiarities of life, and comforted by his capable wife, Emily (Suzanne Pleshette). It lasted six seasons. In 1982, he was back with *Newhart*, in which he played a Vermont inn owner bemused by the peculiarities of life, and comforted by his capable wife, Joanna (Mary Frann). It ended after eight seasons with a famous finale in which *Newhart* wakes up as the psychologist and tells Emily about his strange dream as a Vermont inn owner.

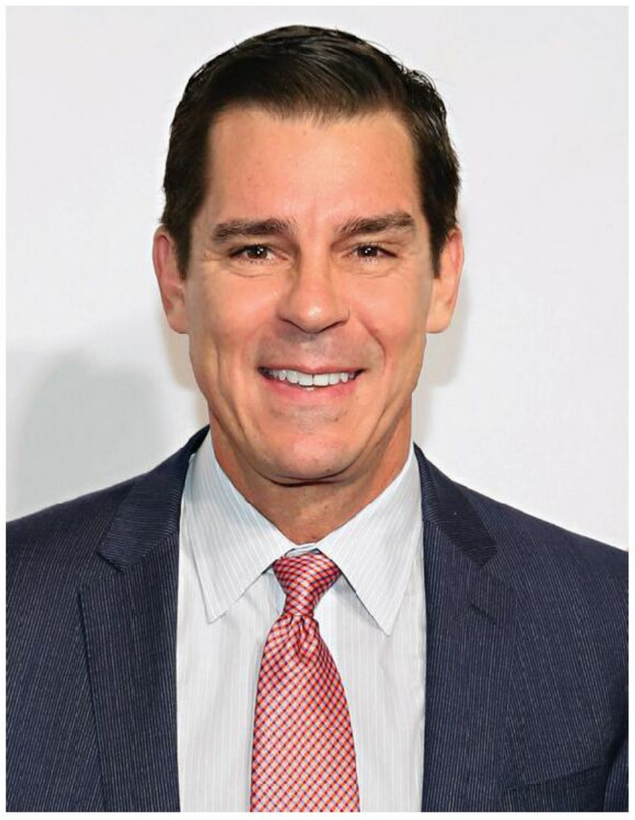
Newhart won his only Emmy in 2013 as Professor Proton, the former host of a TV science show on *The Big Bang Theory*. He continued doing standup. Over more than 60 years his deadpan style never got old: "I've always likened what I do to the man who is convinced that he is the last sane man on Earth," he wrote in his 2006 memoir *I Shouldn't Even Be Doing This!*

Newhart died July 18 at age 94.

TSUNG-DAO LEE

PHYSICIST & NOBEL PRIZE WINNER

B. 1926 Tsung-Dao Lee overturned what had been accepted as a fundamental law of physics, forcing significant shifts in theories of particle behavior. Raised in Shanghai, Lee became fascinated by physics as a young man. China's war with Japan and then World War II interrupted his studies, but in 1946, he was admitted to the University of Chicago. Later, at Columbia, Lee and his colleague Chen Ning Yang challenged the law of conservation parity, which said that any phenomenon and its mirror image—matter and anti-matter, for instance—would behave the same. Lee's and Yang's experiments proved that this was not always true. Lee and Yang shared the 1957 Nobel Prize in physics, the first Chinese-born laureates. Lee died August 4 at age 97.



BILLY BEAN

BASEBALL PLAYER

B. 1964 Billy Bean was only 31 when he retired as a player from Major League Baseball because in 1995, as he wrote in his memoir *Going the Other Way* (2003), baseball "wasn't ready for a guy like me." Bean recognized he was gay early in his career, which began in 1987 with the Detroit Tigers. He also played for the Los Angeles Dodgers and San Diego Padres. He tired of having to hide his sexuality and feared being outed would hurt his family. In 2014, he returned to baseball as the league's first ambassador of inclusion. In 2022, he was named MLB's senior vice president of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Bean died of leukemia on August 6. He was 60.

CHI CHI RODRIGUEZ

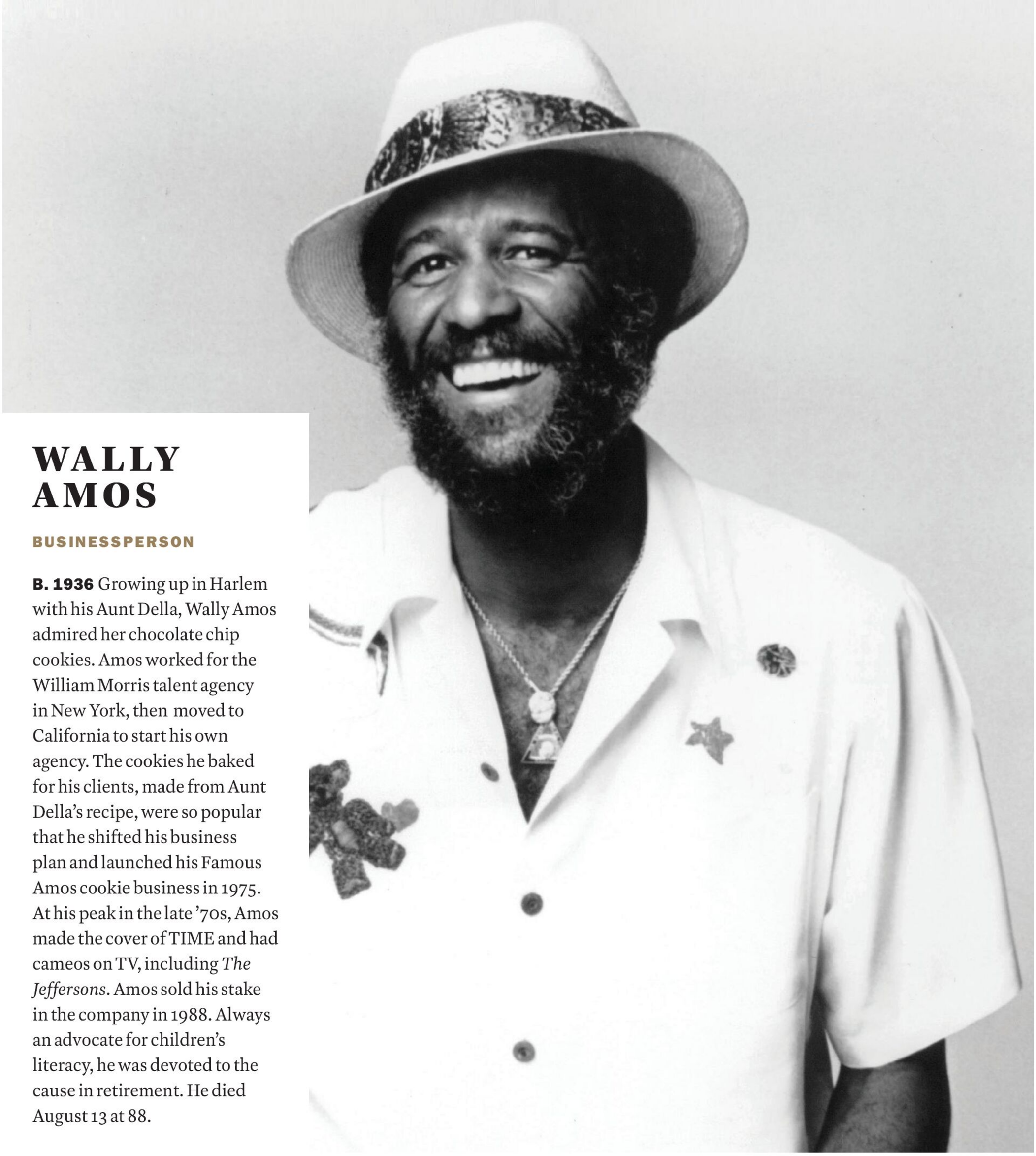
GOLFER

B. 1935 Golf legend Juan "Chi Chi" Rodriguez Jr., with a ready smile and easy grace, liked to joke with fans on the course, turning a game of high concentration and low action into entertainment. He was a fan favorite, especially when he sank a tough putt: He brandished his putter like a sword, then wiped it off and returned it to an imaginary scabbard. Born in Puerto Rico, Rodriguez worked in cane fields at age 7 before becoming a caddy at a local country club. He won eight tournaments on the PGA tour and 22 titles as a senior golfer. He was inducted into the golf Hall of Fame in 1992. Rodriguez died August 8 at age 88.

SUSAN WOJCICKI

BUSINESSPERSON

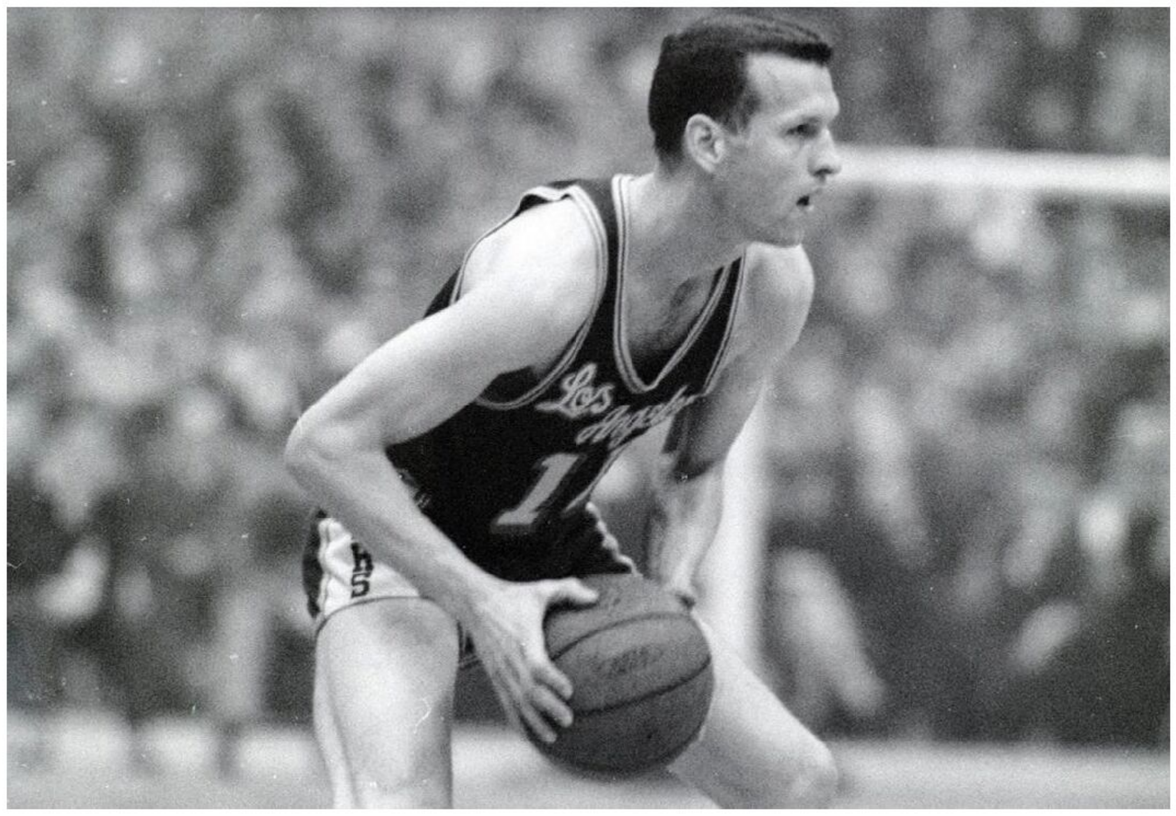
B. 1968 Susan Wojcicki, who died August 9 at age 56, was more than one of the most influential players in the tech industry. As the mother of five children, she also was a powerful advocate for policies that helped women retain their footing in the corporate world. In the late '90s, Wojcicki rented her garage for $1,700 a month to Larry Page and Sergey Brin as they worked on their new search engine, Google. Wojcicki later became employee No. 16 at Google and in 2006, pushed for its acquisition of YouTube. She took over as YouTube CEO in 2014, building it into one of the most successful social-media outlets before stepping down to focus on her family and her health. She was diagnosed with non-small-cell lung cancer in 2022.



WALLY AMOS

BUSINESSPERSON

B. 1936 Growing up in Harlem with his Aunt Della, Wally Amos admired her chocolate chip cookies. Amos worked for the William Morris talent agency in New York, then moved to California to start his own agency. The cookies he baked for his clients, made from Aunt Della's recipe, were so popular that he shifted his business plan and launched his Famous Amos cookie business in 1975. At his peak in the late '70s, Amos made the cover of TIME and had cameos on TV, including *The Jeffersons*. Amos sold his stake in the company in 1988. Always an advocate for children's literacy, he was devoted to the cause in retirement. He died August 13 at 88.



FRANK SELVY

BASKETBALL PLAYER

B. 1932 Frank Selvy, an All-American with Furman University's basketball team in the 1950s, is best known for scoring 100 points in a single college game in 1954. Born in Kentucky, one of 10 children, Selvy excelled on the basketball court in high school and accepted a scholarship to Furman, a Division I school in Greenville, South Carolina. His 100-point game, against nearby Newberry College, was in the era before the 3-point shot. Selvy, the first pick of the NBA draft in 1954, played for several teams in his 10 years in the league, the last four with the Los Angeles Lakers. He died August 13 at age 91.

JOHN LANSING

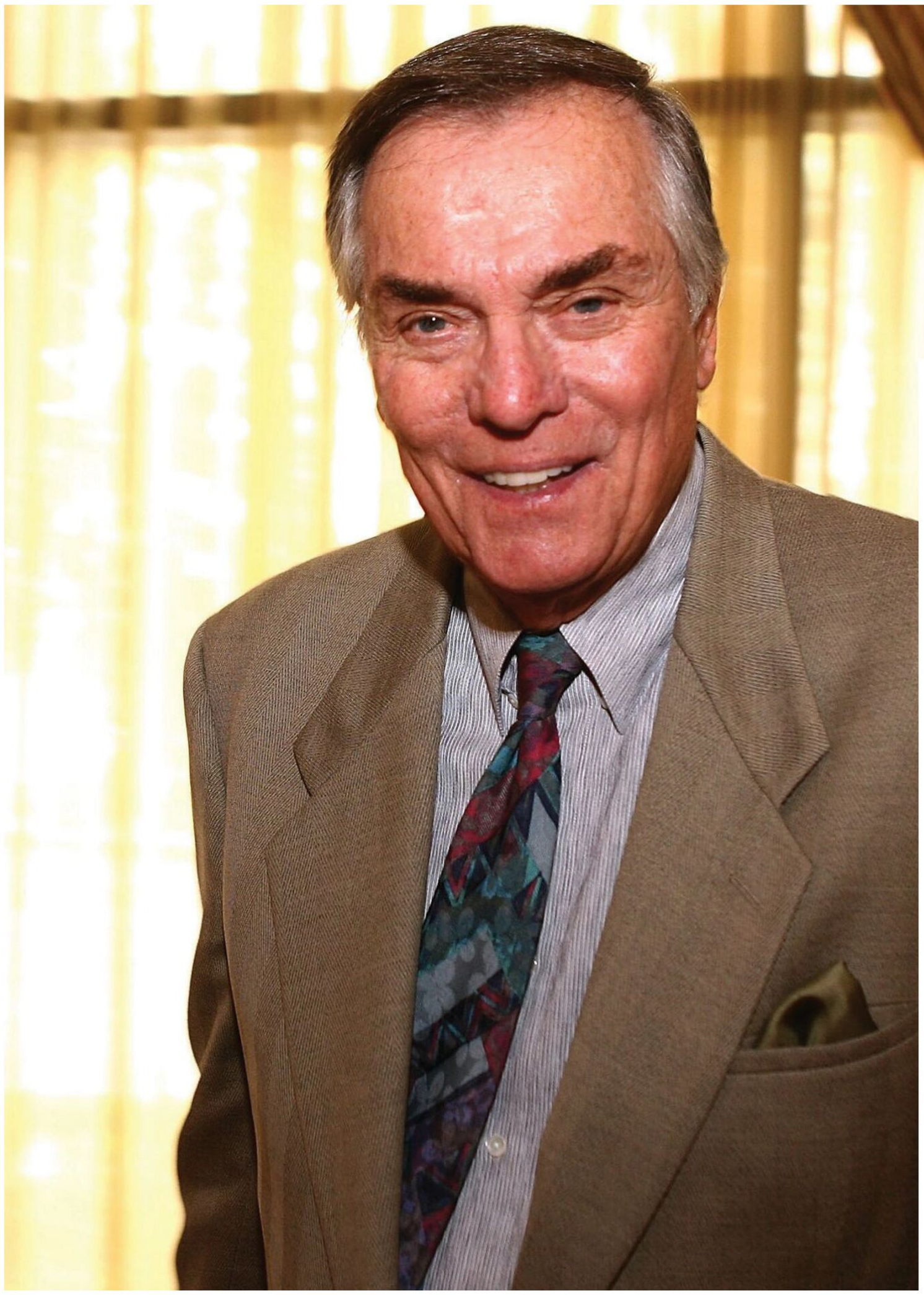
BROADCASTING EXECUTIVE

B. 1957 Broadcasting executive John Lansing led National Public Radio through some of its darkest times, first weathering the COVID-19 lockdown, which upended the newsroom model, and then the financial hardship that gripped the network after the pandemic, when dozens lost their jobs. Raised in Paducah, Kentucky, Lansing started at a local TV station when he was 17. He moved up through the ranks at stations across the Upper Midwest until he became president of Scripps Networks. He then ran the government agency that oversees Voice of America and Radio Free Europe before taking over NPR in 2019, where he was an outspoken advocate for media freedom and diversity in newsrooms. He was 67 when he died August 14.

GENA ROWLANDS

ACTOR

B. 1930 As chief collaborator and muse to her husband, filmmaker John Cassavetes, actor Gena Rowlands burned through the cardboard confines of typical movie women to give her characters such emotional depth, it could be painful to watch them. She married Cassavetes in her early 20s and they made 10 movies together, including *A Woman Under the Influence* (1974), about a mother suffering from mental illness, for which Rowlands was nominated for an Oscar. She also earned a nomination for *Gloria* (1980) playing a gangster's moll. Rowlands, who died August 14 at age 94, gained a new following as the tragic wife stricken with dementia in *The Notebook* (2004), directed by her son Nick Cassavetes. She received an honorary Oscar in 2015.



PETER MARSHALL

ACTOR & GAME SHOW HOST

B. 1926 Peter Marshall, the stage name for Ralph Pierre LaCock, never expected that game show gig to become a career. When he auditioned to take over as host of *The Hollywood Squares* in 1966, Marshall had been on Broadway and was expecting to return to the theater. But *Squares* took off, and Marshall was host for 16 years. As straight man to comics Paul Lynde, George Gobel, and others, Marshall called *Squares* "the easiest thing I've ever done in show business." After he left the show, he returned to singing and acting. He starred in 800 performances of *La Cage Aux Folles* on Broadway, among other shows. Marshall died August 15 at age 98.

RUTH JOHNSON COLVIN

PHILANTHROPIST

B. 1916 When Ruth Johnson Colvin learned in 1961 that some 11,000 people in her city of Syracuse, New York, were functionally illiterate, she set up an office in her basement, using an old fridge as a bookcase, and started tutoring. Such was the start of what became Literacy Volunteers of America. In 2002, it merged with another group to become ProLiteracy Worldwide, with more than 1,000 programs globally. Colvin's degree was in business management, not teaching, and she used everyday materials such as job applications to help her adult students. She received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President George W. Bush in 2006. Colvin, who was 107 at her death August 18, published a memoir when she was 103.

ALAIN DELON

ACTOR

B. 1935 Often called the most attractive man in the movies, Alain Delon was the magnetic face of French New Wave, the 1960s experimental film movement of Jean-Luc Godard, Jean-Pierre Melville, and others notable for its cinematic beauty and noirish plots. Delon, who died August 18 at age 88, made his name playing gangsters, lovers with a secret, and cold-blooded killers. His chiseled features captured the shadows and light of New Wave cinematography to perfection, while his understated acting style infused his characters with gravitas and mystery.

Born in a suburb of Paris, Delon was kicked out of six schools before he quit altogether at 14 to work in his stepfather's butcher shop. At 17, he entered the French navy, where he saw action in the First Indochina War. Distrust of authority marred his time in the military; he spent 11 months in the brig for various crimes, including stealing a jeep.

Back in Paris in his 20s, Delon borrowed a suit to go to the Cannes Film Festival with some acting friends. There, an American movie scout offered Delon a contract. Instead, Delon accepted a different offer from French filmmaker Yves Allegret, who cast him in a crime drama. Three years later, in 1960, Delon starred in his breakthrough role as Patricia Highsmith's ruthless Tom Ripley in *Purple Noon*. He honed his skill for playing gorgeous thugs in *Any Number Can Win* (1963), *Le Samourai* (1967), and *Le Cercle Rouge* (1970).

Off screen, Delon was controversial, with many girlfriends and a friendship with Corsican gangster Francois Marcantoni. In 1968, a former bodyguard of Delon's was found murdered. Police interrogated the actor several times, but never charged him.

Delon considered his best work to have been in *Mr. Klein* (1976), in which he played an art dealer wanted by the Nazis. He won a Cesar, the French Oscar, for *Notre Histoire* (1984), as an aging alcoholic obsessed with a younger woman.

PHIL DONAHUE

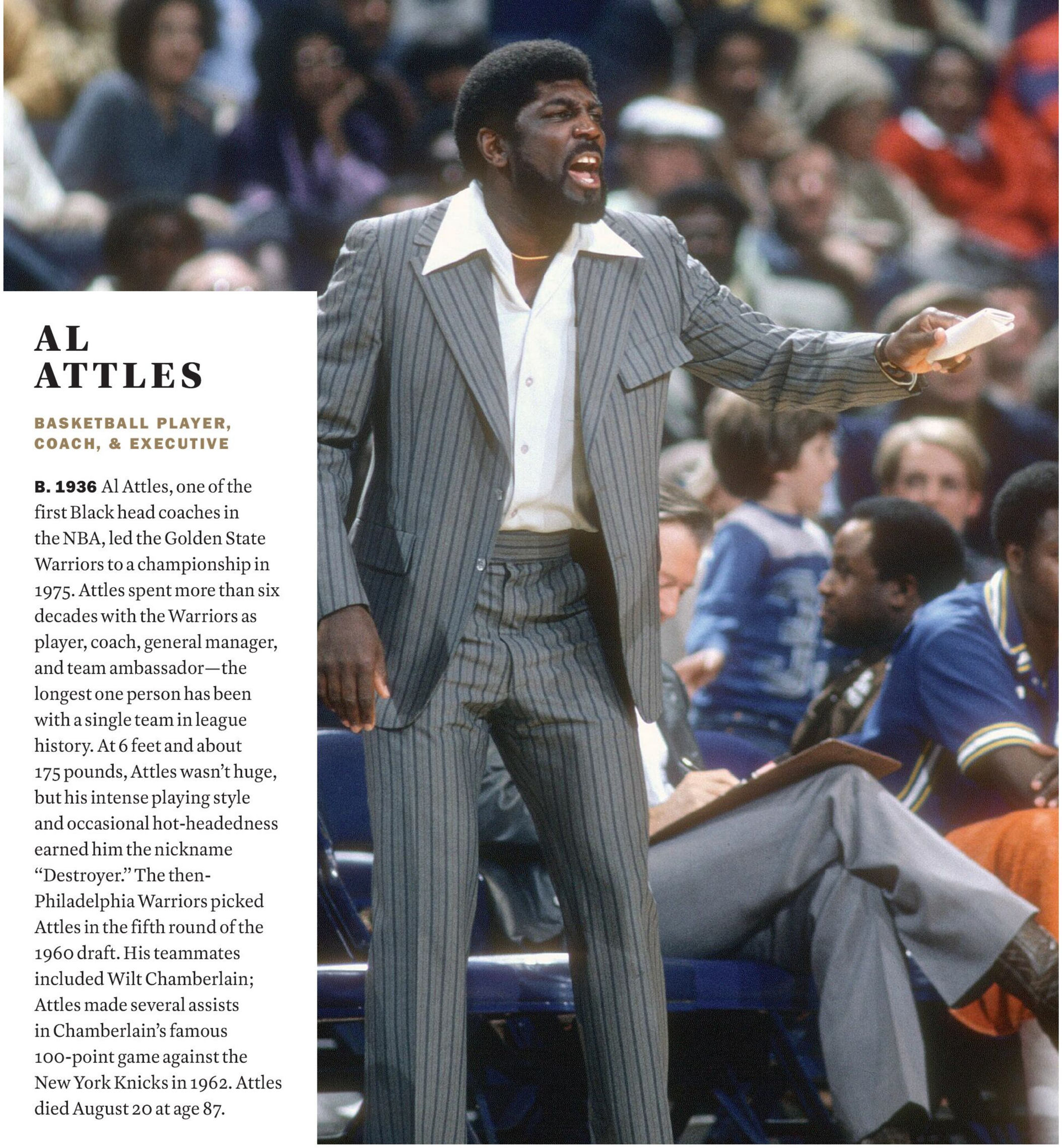
TALK SHOW HOST

B. 1935 Phil Donahue transformed daytime TV into a community venue, where crowds of strangers came together to discuss such wide-ranging topics as domestic abuse, consumer protection, and lesbian go-go dancers. Long regarded as a TV pioneer, Donahue perfected the art of chatting with the audience, turning it into another character on his single-topic, single-guest interview program. He dominated the ratings for many of his more than 25 years on the air as host of *The Phil Donahue Show*, later shortened to *Donahue*, and inspired several copycats, including Sally Jesse Raphael, Maury Povich, Geraldo Rivera, and Jerry Springer. Oprah Winfrey, who also borrowed Donahue's format, proved his most significant competitor, ultimately capturing more of the women viewers who drove Donahue's success. Oprah acknowledged Donahue's influence when presenting him with a lifetime achievement award at the Daytime Emmys in 1996: "Had there not been a Phil Donahue, I don't think there could have been an Oprah."

Raised in a devout Catholic household in Ohio, Donahue graduated from Notre Dame and married his college sweetheart, Margaret Mary Cooney, in 1958. The couple had five children, but their marriage ended in divorce in 1975. Donahue grew increasingly disillusioned with the Catholic faith and eventually left the church; he sometimes criticized its tenets on air. His first guest when his show debuted in 1967 in Dayton, Ohio, was the then-well-known atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair.

In 1977, Donahue interviewed actress Marlo Thomas on his show, and their chemistry was palpable. "You are really fascinating," he told Thomas, who replied, "You are wonderful." The two married in 1980 and were together 44 years until his death August 18 at age 88.

Over his career, in addition to his lifetime achievement Emmy, he won nine Daytime EmmyAwards as best host, a primetime Emmy, and a Peabody Award.



AL ATTLES

BASKETBALL PLAYER, COACH, & EXECUTIVE

B. 1936 Al Attles, one of the first Black head coaches in the NBA, led the Golden State Warriors to a championship in 1975. Attles spent more than six decades with the Warriors as player, coach, general manager, and team ambassador—the longest one person has been with a single team in league history. At 6 feet and about 175 pounds, Attles wasn't huge, but his intense playing style and occasional hot-headedness earned him the nickname "Destroyer." The then-Philadelphia Warriors picked Attles in the fifth round of the 1960 draft. His teammates included Wilt Chamberlain; Attles made several assists in Chamberlain's famous 100-point game against the New York Knicks in 1962. Attles died August 20 at age 87.

BETTY HALBREICH

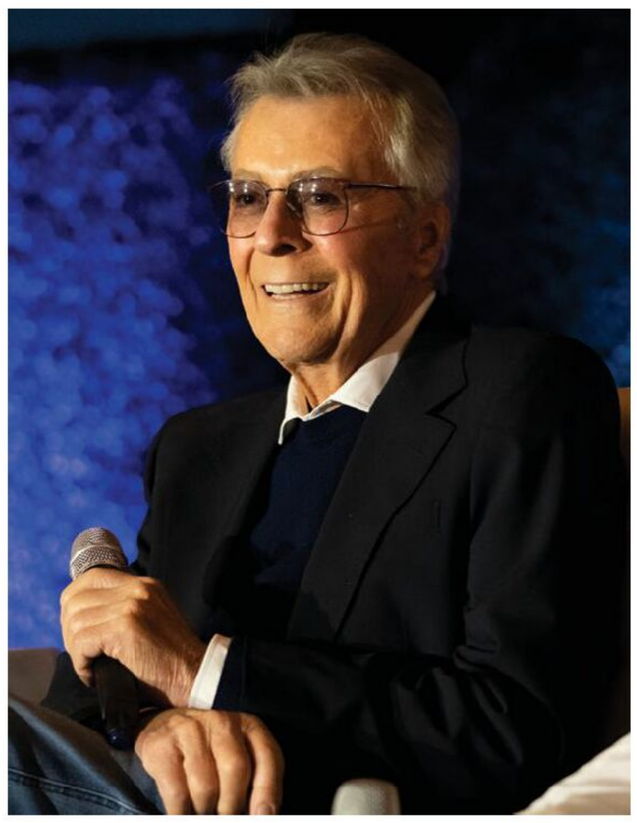
PERSONAL SHOPPER

B. 1927 As the personal shopper at New York's Bergdorf Goodman department store, Betty Halbreich counseled everyone from movie stars like Meryl Streep and Lauren Bacall to stay-at-home moms. After Bergdorf CEO Ira Neimark hired her as a sales associate in the 1970s, Halbreich realized her talent was in advising clients what did and didn't work for them. Soon she was building a department around what she called "individual help." She also advised on movies and TV shows, including *Sex in the City*. Halbreich's own years of comfort shopping during a difficult marriage informed her career. She warned clients, for example, against buying only for the sake of status: "You should love yourself in something immediately," was one of her rules. She died August 24 at 96.

JOHNNY GAUDREAU

HOCKEY PLAYER

B. 1993 Johnny "Johnny Hockey" Gaudreau was set to start his third season with the NHL's Columbus Blue Jackets when he was killed by a suspected drunken driver near his hometown in New Jersey on August 29. Gaudreau, 31, was bicycling with his 29-year-old brother, Matthew, who also died in the accident. Both Gaudreau brothers had been standout hockey players at Boston College; Johnny helped the team to its NCAA championship in 2012 and, in 2014, he won the Hobey Baker Award as the country's top college player. Johnny went on to play with the Calgary Flames where, in 2017, he won the Lady Byng Trophy for sportsmanship and gentlemanly conduct while maintaining a high standard of play.



JAMES DARREN

ACTOR, SINGER, & DIRECTOR

B. 1936 James Darren starred as the heartthrob Moondoggie in the *Gidget* movies of the late '50s and early '60s—surfer romps that belied his serious acting training with Stella Adler. *Gidget* (1959) launched his singing career and led to a supporting role in the World War II drama *The Guns of Navarone* (1961). On TV beginning in the mid-1960s, Darren starred in *The Time Tunnel*, did guest spots on series, including *The Love Boat* and *Hawaii Five-O*, and had a recurring role on *T.J. Hooker*. He also directed TV shows, including *Beverly Hills 90210*. Darren's last recurring acting role was that of holographic lounge singer Vic Fontaine on *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*. He died September 2 at age 88.

LINDA DEUTSCH

JOURNALIST

B. 1943 Long considered one of the best trial reporters ever to lift a pen, Linda Deutsch wrote smart, propulsive accounts for Associated Press of some of the most famous court cases of recent history, including the murder trials of O.J. Simpson, the Menendez brothers, and Ted Kaczynski.

Deutsch, who died September 1 at age 80, started an Elvis Presley fan club newsletter in her hometown of Perth Amboy, New Jersey, when she was 12. She moved to Los Angeles after college hoping to become an entertainment writer. But as a reporter for AP she was assigned to assist in covering the 1969 trial of Sirhan Sirhan, who was convicted of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. The next year, Charles Manson and members of his "family" murdered six people, including pregnant actress Sharon Tate. Deutsch covered the trial from Day One, as backup to a senior AP writer out of New York. The veteran reporter went on vacation about a month into the trial and Deutsch handled the rest of the coverage herself. In 2017, when Manson died in prison, she described the trial, in her classic spare, clear style, as "a surreal spectacle punctuated with grotesque images of death, bloody scrawlings and tales of a 'family' of disaffected youths living in a backwater commune."

Prosecutors and defense lawyers alike admired her work. Judge Lance Ito named Deutsch as the lone reporter to cover jury selection when the Simpson trial opened. Michael Jackson's lawyer Thomas Mesereau described Deutsch as "extremely ethical, extremely professional and very, very honest."

No matter the outcome of a case, Deutsch said, a courtroom trial is the human condition writ large: "It's like being in a theater every day," she told NPR. "It's like being in the front row seat to history."

JAMES EARL JONES

ACTOR

B. 1931 Actor James Earl Jones, whose melodic bass voice infused every role he played with uncommon gravitas, was known by generations of *Star Wars* fans as Darth Vader. In fact, his was a well-moderated voice honed by years in the theater, which Jones considered his true creative home. A premier interpreter of Shakespeare, Athol Fugard, and August Wilson, Jones won two competitive Tonys over his 60-year career—in 1969 for *The Great White Hope* and in 1987 for *Fences*.

Jones was not always comfortable speaking. Born in Mississippi, he was 5 when he moved to Michigan, where he was raised by his maternal grandparents. Around the time he started school, Jones developed a stutter and eventually stopped talking. In his 1993 memoir *James Earl Jones: Voices and Silences*, he observed that for him speaking became synonymous with identity. By retreating from it, "I was robbing myself of any presence. I was denying myself identity." One day in high school, his English teacher challenged Jones to read aloud a poem he'd written. Soon, as if eager to make up for lost time, "I could not get enough of speaking, debating, orating—acting," Jones wrote. The stutter remained throughout his life. "I don't say I was cured," he once told NPR. "I just work with it."

He acted in about 90 TV dramas and series, beginning with roles as a doctor in daytime dramas *The Guiding Light* and *As the World Turns* in the 1960s. He made his movie debut as the bombardier in Stanley Kubrik's *Dr. Strangelove* (1964), and he would go on to act in some 120 movies over six decades.

Jones received the National Medal of the Arts in 1992, a lifetime achievement Oscar in 2011, and a lifetime achievement Tony in 2017. Broadway's Cort Theater was renamed the James Earl Jones Theater in 2022.

He died September 9 at age 93.

SERGIO MENDES

MUSICIAN

B. 1941 Brazilian-born pianist, composer, and arranger Sergio Mendes brought bossa nova and other catchy Brazilian sounds to American audiences, turning lush keyboards and sexy rhythms into a new definition of cool in the 1960s. Raised outside Rio de Janeiro, Mendes became smitten with jazz at 17 when he heard a Dave Brubeck album. His big break into the American market came courtesy of record executive and musician Herb Alpert, who in 1966 released *Herb Alpert Presents Sergio Mendes and Brasil '66*. An instant classic, the album was added to the Grammy Hall of Fame in 2011. Mendes, who died September 5 at age 83, found new audiences when contemporary artists, including the Black Eyed Peas and Justin Timberlake, rediscovered his sound and recorded with him.

WILL JENNINGS

SONGWRITER

B. 1944 Lyricist Will Jennings, an English professor by trade, had a knack for capturing emotional moments in spare, poetic language. He shared two Academy Awards for songwriting, the first for "Up Where We Belong" from *An Officer and a Gentleman* (1982) and the other for the *Titanic* (1997) theme "My Heart Will Go On," sung by Celine Dion. In the 1980s, Jennings collaborated with rocker Steve Winwood, contributing several hits, including chart-toppers "Higher Love" and "Roll With It." With Eric Clapton, Jennings wrote lyrics for the Grammy-winning "Tears in Heaven," for the movie *Rush* (1991). Jennings returned to his native Texas in his later years. He died September 6 at age 80.

MICHAELA DEPRINCE

BALLERINA

B. 1995 Ballerina Michaela DePrince, praised for her athletic grace with companies in Boston and Amsterdam and in a 2016 Beyonce music video, was born in war-torn Sierra Leone. She had vitiligo, which affects skin pigmentation. When rebels killed her father, DePrince and her mother lived with her uncle, who beat and starved them. Her mother died and DePrince went to an orphanage, where she was mistreated again because of her skin condition. One day, she found a dance magazine with a ballerina on the cover and her outlook brightened. Her American adoptive parents enrolled DePrince in ballet lessons; at 14, she appeared in *First Position*, a 2011 documentary about competitive dance. DePrince was 29 when she died on September 10.

CHAD MCQUEEN

ACTOR & AUTO RACER

B. 1960 Best known as the bully Dutch from the first two *Karate Kid* movies in the mid-1980s, Chad McQueen preferred to race cars, a passion he inherited from his father, actor Steve McQueen. Chad, who died September 11 at age 63, first raced on the set of his dad's film *Le Mans* (1971), when he was 10. As an adult, Chad McQueen competed in 24 Hours of Le Mans and 12 Hours of Sebring races, among other events. In 2006, while practicing for the Rolex 24 at Daytona, McQueen had a crash that left him in a coma for about a month. He didn't race competitively again, but in 2010 he founded McQueen Racing, a company that makes high-performance vehicles.

JOE SCHMIDT

FOOTBALL PLAYER & COACH

B. 1932 Joe Schmidt was named to 10 consecutive NFL Pro Bowls in 13 seasons as a linebacker with the Detroit Lions and helped the team to two championships in 1953 and 1957. He covered the middle, a position that didn't exist until teams began shifting to the passing game in the mid-1950s. Schmidt, savvy and quick, could anticipate the offense, which may have been his "greatest talent," according to his Hall of Fame profile. Schmidt, who died September 11 at age 92, spent his entire NFL career with the Lions, becoming a coach after his playing days ended in 1965. He was head coach of the Lions from 1967 to 1972.

MARY MCFADDEN

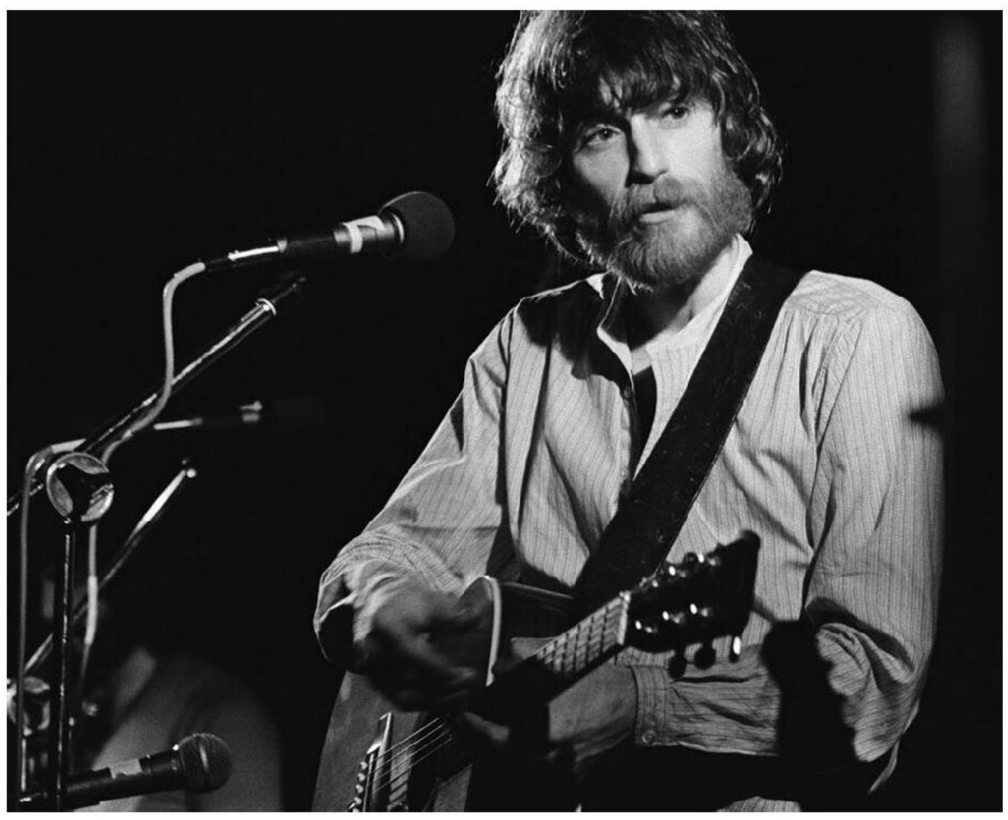
FASHION DESIGNER

B. 1938 Born into wealth, Mary McFadden designed clothes that befit a privileged world—a clientele that included Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. She patented a synthetic fabric, Marii, that she formed into micro pleats for luminous sheath-style dresses that fell, as McFadden once put it, "like liquid gold on the body." Her gowns hugged the frame from shoulder to foot, resembling the tunics worn by ancient Greeks. One of her designs is in the Costume Institute at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She was an editor at *Vogue* and president of the Council of Fashion Designers of America in the 1980s. McFadden, who died September 13 at age 85, also was a noted art collector; she once bartered with Pablo Picasso, trading diamonds for paintings.

TITO JACKSON

MUSICIAN

B. 1953 Tito Jackson, a founding member of the Jackson 5, remained loyal to the group throughout his life. In a talented musical family that included massive hitmakers Michael Jackson and Janet Jackson, Tito played guitar and maintained the musical and professional momentum of the brothers' singing group. The Jackson 5—Jackie, Tito, Jermaine, Marlon, and Michael—signed with Motown Records in the late 1960s. Their biggest hits were "I Want You Back," "ABC," "The Love You Save," and "I'll Be There." The Jacksons were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1997. Tito's only solo album, *Tito Time*, came out in 2016. He was 70 when he died on September 15.



JD SOUTHER

SINGER-SONGWRITER & ACTOR

B. 1945 John David "JD" Souther mastered a genre of music—California rock—that came to define the mainstream 1970s sound. Through his close friendship with Glenn Frey, Souther had a longtime collaboration with the Eagles, writing or co-writing several hits, including "Heartache Tonight," "New Kid in Town," and "The Best of My Love." He also wrote for Linda Ronstadt, whom he dated for a time, and Bonnie Raitt, and collaborated with Roy Orbison and James Taylor, among others. Born in Detroit and raised in Texas, Souther moved to California in the 1960s. His outsize Southern charm sometimes landed him acting gigs, including a recurring role on the late '80s TV dramedy *thirtysomething*. Souther died September 17 at 78.

NELSON DEMILLE

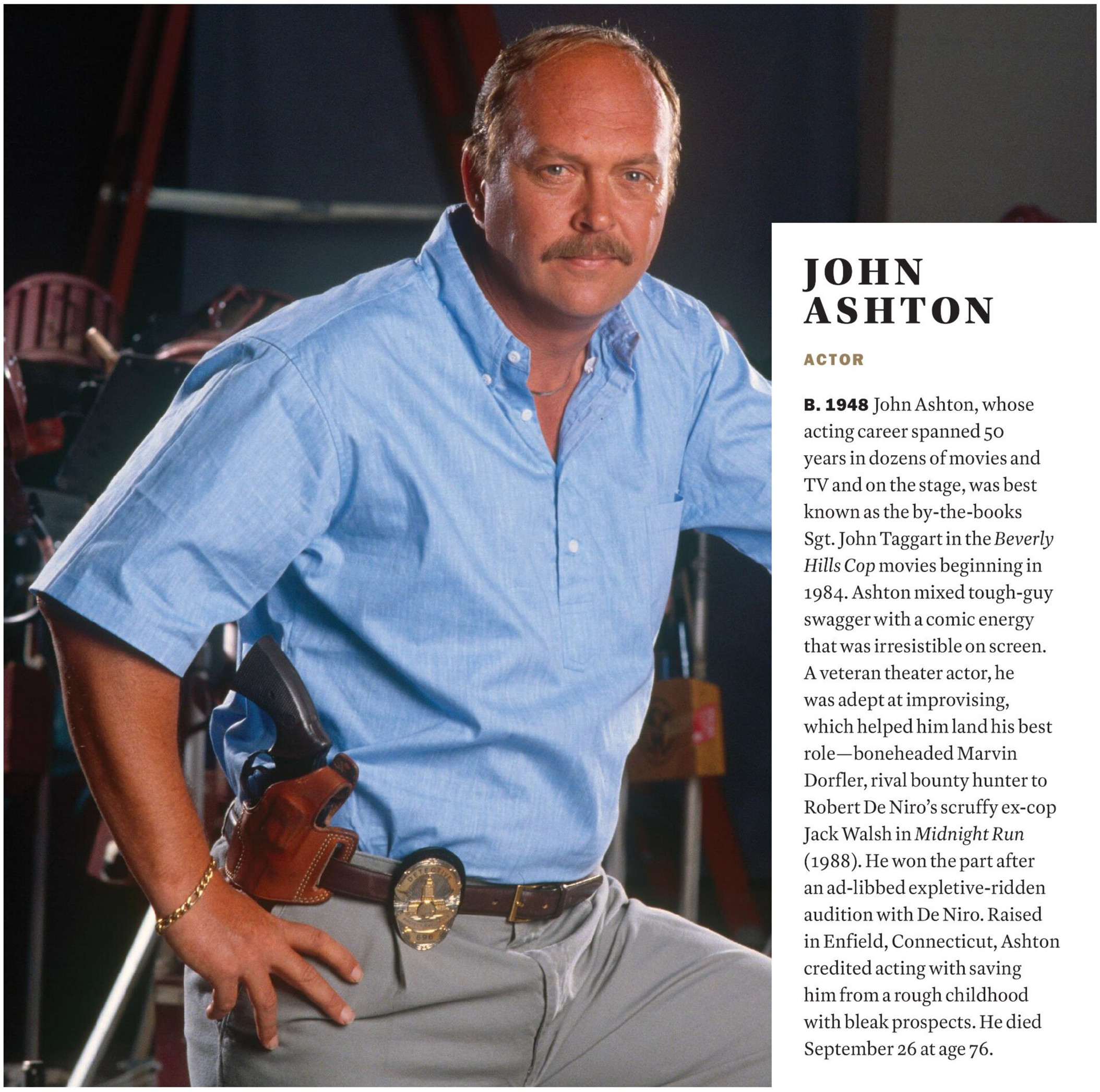
WRITER

B. 1943 A writer of engrossing spy thrillers, Nelson DeMille drew on his experiences as a Vietnam combat veteran to lend grit to his novels. TIME lauded his fifth book, *Word of Honor*, about a veteran on trial for a My Lai-type massacre, as having "the gunmetal ring of authenticity." In all, DeMille wrote 23 books and had global sales of 58 million. His chief protagonist, John Corey, is a former New York cop whose wry, self-deprecating narration has delighted fans and critics alike. DeMille also wrote books that featured mobsters, lawyers, and the idle ultra-rich—all characters he knew well growing up on Long Island. In Vietnam, DeMille fought in the Tet Offensive and earned a Bronze Star. He was 81 when he died on September 17.

KATHRYN CROSBY

ACTOR & SINGER

B. 1933 It takes a special woman to be married to Bing Crosby for 20 years, and Kathryn Crosby, who died September 20 at age 90, certainly fit the bill. A former Texas beauty queen-turned-Hollywood starlet, Crosby also had degrees in drama, nursing, and teaching. She met Bing, 30 years her senior, in 1953 at Paramount Studios: "Hi, Tex, what's your hurry?" he said, as she breezed by. They married four years later. After their three children were born, Bing insisted Kathryn abandon her career—she appeared in some 20 films—and he complained of her educational pursuits. "He didn't know that he was a male chauvinist pig—but he was, of course," she told the Associated Press. She returned to acting after he died in 1977.



JOHN ASHTON

ACTOR

B. 1948 John Ashton, whose acting career spanned 50 years in dozens of movies and TV and on the stage, was best known as the by-the-books Sgt. John Taggart in the *Beverly Hills Cop* movies beginning in 1984. Ashton mixed tough-guy swagger with a comic energy that was irresistible on screen. A veteran theater actor, he was adept at improvising, which helped him land his best role—boneheaded Marvin Dorfler, rival bounty hunter to Robert De Niro's scruffy ex-cop Jack Walsh in *Midnight Run* (1988). He won the part after an ad-libbed expletive-ridden audition with De Niro. Raised in Enfield, Connecticut, Ashton credited acting with saving him from a rough childhood with bleak prospects. He died September 26 at age 76.

DRAKE HOGESTYN

ACTOR

B. 1953 Drake Hogestyn appeared in more than 4,000 episodes of the NBC soap *Days of Our Lives*. He played John Black, a mysterious, charismatic figure modeled after novelist Robert Ludlum's Jason Bourne. The part was supposed to last only through Sweeps Week in 1986, but Hogestyn's obvious on-screen chemistry with Deidre Hall, who plays psychiatrist Marlena Evans, altered the character's trajectory from temp to full time. He and Hall were a beloved couple in daytime TV for 38 years. An Indiana native, Hogestyn played minor-league baseball until an injury forced him to switch to acting. His last appearance on *Days* was a few weeks before his death from pancreatic cancer on September 28. He was 70.

MAGGIE SMITH

ACTOR

B. 1934 No one was more surprised by her late-in-life fame than actor Maggie Smith. American audiences knew her best as the withering, sharp-tongued dowager countess Violet Crawley on TV's *Downton Abbey* (2010-15). And *Harry Potter* fans everywhere admired her as the redoubtable Professor Minerva McGonagall, transfiguration instructor and deputy headmistress at Hogwarts.

In fact, Smith, a commander and dame of the British Empire, excelled in every kind of role over six decades on stage and screen, from Shakespearean tragedy to mainstream comedy. She won her first Academy Award for her magnetic portrayal of a morally ambiguous teacher in *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* (1969), and her second for her supporting role as a comically self-loathing movie star in Neil Simon's *California Suite* (1978).

Born outside London and raised in Oxford, Smith began acting as a teenager and joined Laurence Olivier's newly formed National Theatre in the early 1960s. She dazzled in a string of memorable stage roles, including Desdemona opposite Olivier's Othello and the heroine of *Hedda Gabler*, directed by Ingmar Bergman. In the late 1970s, Smith spent four seasons at Canada's Stratford Festival, where she performed classic drama in repertory. The rigorous schedule suited Smith, who, though she preferred theater to any other medium, had a reputation for growing bored playing the same character night after night. "She starts divinely," actor Jeremy Brett once said, "and then goes off, rather like cheese."

Shy, restless, fiercely intelligent, and "always very relieved to be somebody else," as she once told the *New York Times*, Smith disliked fame. It alarmed her when fans approached her in public, which happened often after *Downton Abbey* made her a breakout star in her 70s. She hadn't watched the show, but, as she quipped to BBC chat-show host Graham Norton, "I've got the box set."

Smith died September 27 at age 89.

KRIS KRISTOFFERSON

SINGER-SONGWRITER & ACTOR

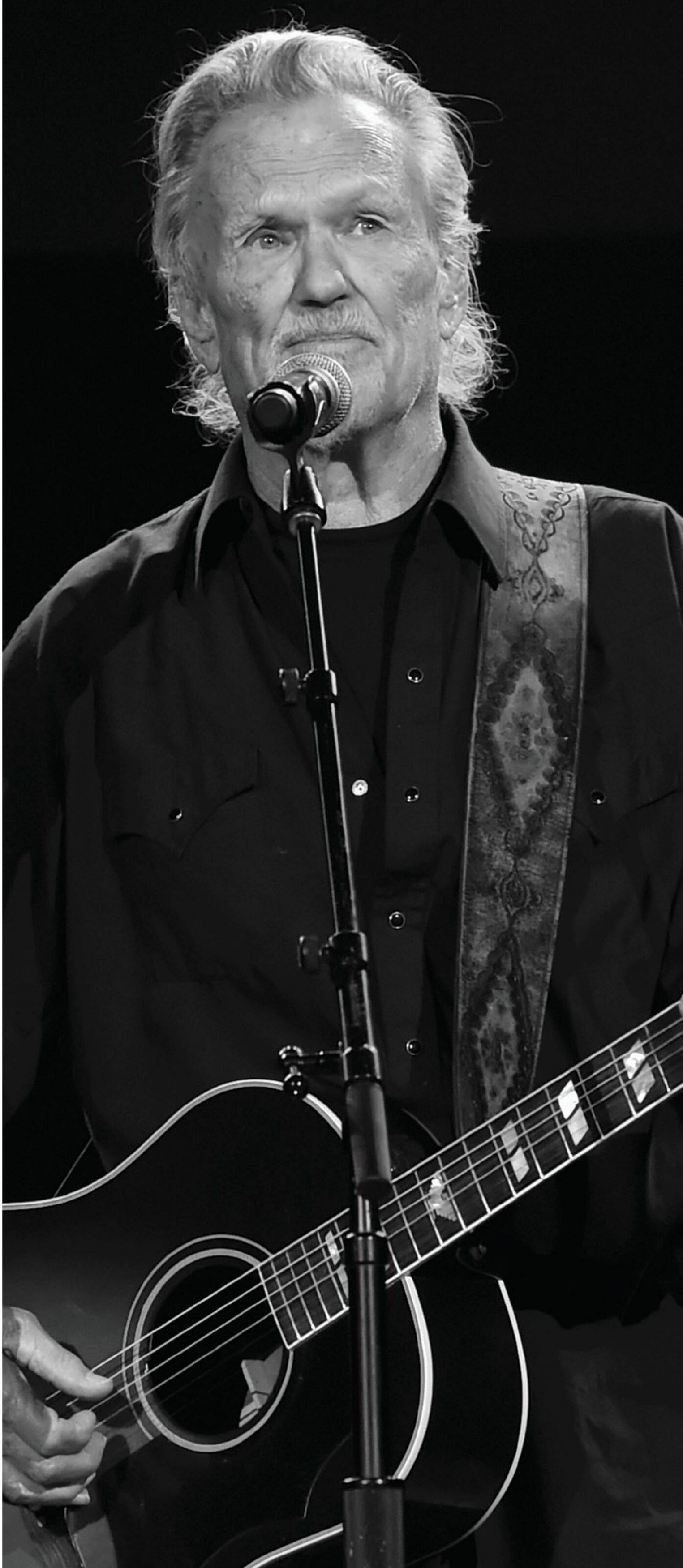
B. 1936 Kris Kristofferson's diverse talents took him in many directions, but he found his spiritual home in country music. Born in Texas and raised in California, Kristofferson was an academic star, while playing rugby, football, and boxing, at Pomona College. In 1958, he won a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford University. Though he longed to be a writer, Kristofferson entered the military after Oxford to please his father, an Air Force officer. Kristofferson was a helicopter pilot and an Army Ranger. But in 1965, when the Army assigned him to teach literature at West Point, Kristofferson balked and headed to Nashville instead.

He supported his songwriting with odd jobs, including janitor, which gave him access to studios and performers. Eventually music stars spun Kristofferson's deft, poetic songs into gold. Johnny Cash's rendition of "Sunday Morning Coming Down" hit No. 1 on the country charts and was named 1970's Song of the Year by the Country Music Association; Janis Joplin's version of "Me and Bobby McGee" topped *Billboard*'s Hot 100. And Sammi Smith hit No. 1 with "Help Me Make It Through the Night." Along the way, Kristofferson recorded his own albums. He disliked his voice—"I sing like a frog"—to which his manager replied, "Yes, but like a frog that can communicate."

Hollywood, meanwhile, liked his scruffy good looks. He was Ellen Burstyn's hunky boyfriend in *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* (1974), Barbra Streisand's doomed partner in the 1976 *A Star is Born*, and a menacing, corrupt lawman in *Lone Star* (1996).

In the 1980s, with Cash, Willie Nelson, and Waylon Jennings in the supergroup Highwaymen, Kristofferson was humbled to be playing with his musical heroes, despite his many Grammys and standing as a legendary songwriter: "Every time I look at a picture of Willie and me and John and Waylon, I find it amazing that they let the janitor in there," he told writer Mikal Gilmore.

He died September 28 at age 88.



DIKEMBE MUTOMBO

BASKETBALL PLAYER & HUMANITARIAN

B. 1966 Dikembe Mutombo left his native Democratic Republic of the Congo to study at Georgetown University with hopes of becoming a doctor. But his talent on the basketball court took him to the NBA, where he was a strong defensive player for six pro teams as well as a tireless defender of humanitarian causes to help people in his former homeland.

A towering 7-foot-2, Mutombo started playing basketball in his late teens. He won a scholarship to Georgetown, but didn't join the Hoyas' squad under coach John Thompson until his second year. When it was clear he was going to be a star, Mutombo switched majors from medicine to linguistics and diplomacy. In 1991, the Denver Nuggets drafted him fourth overall.

He played 18 seasons with the NBA, blocking 3,289 shots over his career, second most in league history, and winning defensive player of the year four times. A colorful player with an outsize personality, Mutombo taunted opponents with his famous finger wag, a move that annoyed officials, who fined him often. In 2013, Mutombo, then retired, deployed his signature taunt again in a cheeky Geico Super Bowl commercial. It put him back in the public eye and boosted his foundation, which supported underserved people in Congo.

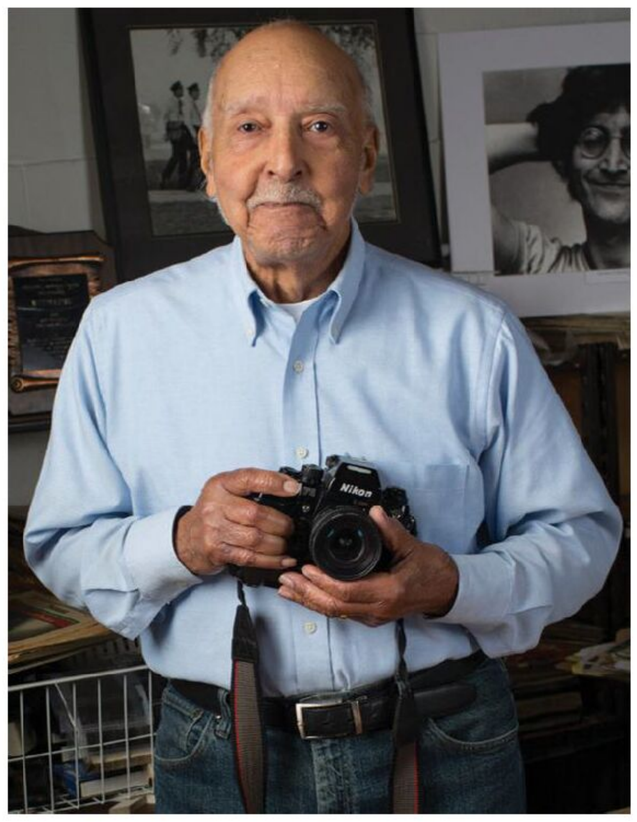
Mutombo was devoted to giving back to the Congolese people throughout his NBA career. It was the chief reason he didn't retire until 2009, when he was 42. He gave $15 million to help build Kinshasa's 170-bed Biamba Marie Mutombo Hospital, named for his mother, who died in 1998 in part because she couldn't get quality medical care. After retiring, Mutombo became the NBA's first Global Ambassador and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2015.

Mutombo began treatment for brain cancer in 2022. He was 58 when he died on September 30.

GAVIN CREEL

ACTOR & SINGER

B. 1976 A Broadway musical mainstay since 2002, Gavin Creel was known for his energetic stage work and impressive tenor. He won a Tony in 2017 for playing Cornelius Hackl opposite Bette Midler in *Hello Dolly!*, and an Olivier Award for his performance in *The Book of Mormon* in London's West End. Born in Findlay, Ohio, Creel graduated from the University of Michigan's School of Music, Theater and Dance. He credited his Midwestern values and Michigan's supportive scholastic atmosphere for setting him up for success. He was a founder of Broadway Impact, an activist group that championed marriage equality. Creel was 48 when he died September 30 of a rare nerve cancer.



MATTHEW LEWIS

PHOTOGRAPHER

B. 1930 Matthew Lewis, son and grandson of photographers, was 33 when he took up photojournalism—at the urging of filmmaker Gordon Parks. He began freelancing for Black newspapers, photographing the 1963 Civil Rights March on Washington and President John F. Kennedy's funeral. In 1965, Lewis joined the *Washington Post*, where, among many significant assignments, he covered the 1968 murder of Martin Luther King Jr. and the subsequent riots in Washington, D.C.—a harrowing several days that had him working around the clock. "I was a Black photographer. I had to do my job," he said later. He won the Pulitzer Prize in 1975. Two years later, he became the *Post*'s first Black assistant managing editor. Lewis died October 2 at 94.

PETE ROSE

BASEBALL PLAYER & MANGER

B. 1941 One of the greatest baseball players of all time, who was later banned from the game he loved, Pete Rose spent much of his last few years parsing the nuances of his compromised career. He hoped to be a Hall of Famer, an honor that was denied him when he was barred from Major League Baseball for betting on games, including those of his own team, the Cincinnati Reds, while he was manager in the late 1980s. The MLB ruling in 1989 came after an extensive investigation, but Rose continued to deny any wrongdoing until 2004, when he admitted in an autobiography to having bet on the Reds—but never against them.

"I don't even think betting on baseball is morally wrong," he wrote in another memoir in 2019. "Betting on baseball the way I did was against the rules of baseball."

Rose was a tenacious, intense athlete even as a child growing up in Cincinnati. His father, also a gifted athlete, coached his son to become a switch hitter when Pete was 8. Rose joined the Reds in 1963 and was Rookie of the Year, with a .273 batting average and 170 hits. He continued to rack up accolades over 24 seasons as a player, including his historic, record-breaking 4,256 career hits. Rose won three World Series, two with Cincinnati and one with Philadelphia; he was a National League MVP and World Series MVP.

Nicknamed Charlie Hustle, Rose was a fierce competitor known for his full-run flying slides, which, combined with his burly frame and take-no-prisoners attitude, made him an intimidating force on the field. He provoked a bench-clearing brawl when he slammed into Mets shortstop Bud Harrelson in a 1973 playoff game, and he permanently damaged Cleveland catcher Ray Fosse's shoulder in a home-plate collision in the 1970 All-Star game.

"I only knew one way to play, and that was play to win," Rose said.

He died September 30 at age 83.

JOHN AMOS

ACTOR

B. 1939 Actor John Amos pioneered the role of a strong, fatherly Black man on 1970s TV, becoming a viewer favorite and impacting a generation of artists. Alicia Keys and the Wu-Tang Clan are among those who acknowledged him in their songs.

After his breakout role as Gordy the weatherman on *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, Amos starred opposite Esther Rolle in *Good Times* (1974-'79), Norman Lear's sitcom set in a housing project. Though initially pleased with the show, Amos grew frustrated with storylines that he felt failed to depict authentic African American culture. "But I wasn't the most diplomatic guy in those days," Amos told the Archive of American Television in 2014, "And [the writers] got tired of having their lives threatened over jokes." Lear fired him after the third season.

Amos bounced back, earning an Emmy nomination playing Kunta Kinte in *Roots* (1977), the groundbreaking miniseries that drew an unprecedented 130 million viewers. "It was the culmination of all of the misconceptions and stereotypical roles that I had lived and seen being offered to me," Amos told TIME in 2021. "It was like a reward for having suffered those indignities."

A New Jersey native, Amos studied sociology at Colorado State University, where he played football and boxed. He signed with the Denver Broncos and then the Kansas City Chiefs but was cut both times. Amos, who enjoyed writing, credited Chiefs coach Hank Stram with encouraging him to pursue it; in Hollywood, Amos's first big break was writing for *The Leslie Uggams Show*.

His memorable big-screen roles included Cleo McDowell in the *Coming to America* movies (1988 and 2021), and a rogue Army major in *Die Hard 2* (1990). He also returned to TV in the '90s, primarily in dramas, notably as chairman of the Joint Chiefs in *The West Wing* (1999-2006).

Amos died August 21 at age 84. His death wasn't publicized until October 1.

ETHEL KENNEDY

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATE

B. 1928 Ethel Kennedy, the Kennedy family matriarch who remained staunchly devoted to husband Robert F. Kennedy's legacy in the decades after his assassination, died on October 10. She was 96.

"It is with our hearts full of love that we announce the passing of our amazing grandmother, Ethel Kennedy," former Rep. Joe Kennedy III wrote on X. "Along with a lifetime's work in social justice and human rights, our mother leaves behind nine children, 34 grandchildren, and 24 great-grandchildren, along with numerous nieces and nephews, all of whom love her dearly," the post continued.

Known for her fiercely competitive spirit and devotion to her Catholic faith, Kennedy raised 11 children as a single mother after her husband was gunned down in 1968—five years after his older brother President John F. Kennedy.

Living out her final years in the family's famed Hyannis Port compound on Cape Cod, Ethel's life was marked by incredible privilege and searing tragedy. The notorious Kennedy Curse seemed to strike Ethel particularly hard—throughout her long life she endured tragic losses that included both her parents, her husband, two of her sons, and a granddaughter.

But Ethel wasn't one to open up about her feelings. Instead, she privately turned to her Rosary, the Bible, and daily Mass for solace. Her youngest daughter, Rory, who was born six months after father's death, directed the 2012 documentary *Ethel*, which gave an insider's view of her mother's life.

—Kathy Ehrich Dowd

United States Public Servants

Every day, scores of elected officials work to keep the nation running. Here, remembering some we lost in 2024.

Former Maine governor Joseph E. Brennan

Former Oregon governor Neil Goldschmidt

STATE GOVERNORS

Robert D. Fulton
D-IOWA
Served 1969

Joseph E. Brennan
D-MAINE
Served 1979-1987
- *U.S. House of Representatives 1987-1991 & Commissioner of the Federal Maritime Commission 1999-2013*

Bob Graham
D-FLORIDA
Served 1979-1987
- *U.S. Senate 1987-2005*

David Pryor
D-ARKANSAS
Served 1975-1979
- *U.S. Senate 1979-1997 & U.S. House of Representatives 1966-1973*

Neil Goldschmidt
D-OREGON
Served 1987-1991
- *U.S. Secretary of Transportation 1979-1981*

Daniel J. Evans
R-WASHINGTON
Served 1965-1977
- *U.S. Senate 1983-1989*

Winfield Dunn
R-TENNESSEE
Served 1971-1975

Former U.S. senator
Jean Carnahan

U.S. SENATORS

Jean Carnahan
D-MISSOURI
Served 2001-2002
• *First Lady of Missouri 1993-2000*

Joe Lieberman
D/I-CONNECTICUT
Served 1989-2013

Jim Inhofe
R-OKLAHOMA
Served 1994-2023
• *U.S. House of Representatives 1987-1994*

Steve Symms
R-IDAHO
Served 1981-1993
• *U.S. House of Representatives 1973-1981*

Jim Sasser
D-TENNESSEE
Served 1977-1995
• *U.S. Ambassador to China 1996-1999*

Tim Johnson
D-SOUTH DAKOTA
Served 1997-2015
• *U.S. House of Representatives 1987-1997*

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Terry Everett
R-ALABAMA
Served 1993-2009

Bill Delahunt
D-MASSACHUSETTS
Served 1997-2011

Bill Gunter
D-FLORIDA
Served 1973-1975

Austin Murphy
D-PENNSYLVANIA
Served 1977-1995

Donald Payne Jr.
D-NEW JERSEY
Served 2012-2024

Chris Cannon
R-UTAH
Served 1997-2009

Pete McCloskey
R-CALIFORNIA
Served 1967-1983

John G. Hutchinson
D-WEST VIRGINIA
Served 1980-1981

George Nethercutt
R-WASHINGTON
Served 1995-2005

Tommy F. Robinson
R-ARKANSAS
Served 1985-1991

Sheila Jackson Lee
D-TEXAS
Served 1995-2024

Henry J. Nowak
D-NEW YORK
Served 1975-1993

Bill Pascrell
D-NEW JERSEY
Served 1997-2024

Bob Carr
D-MICHIGAN
Served 1975-1981, 1983-1995

Dave Hobson
R-OHIO
Served 1991-2009

Former congressperson
Sheila Jackson Lee

TIME

PEOPLE WE LOST

2024

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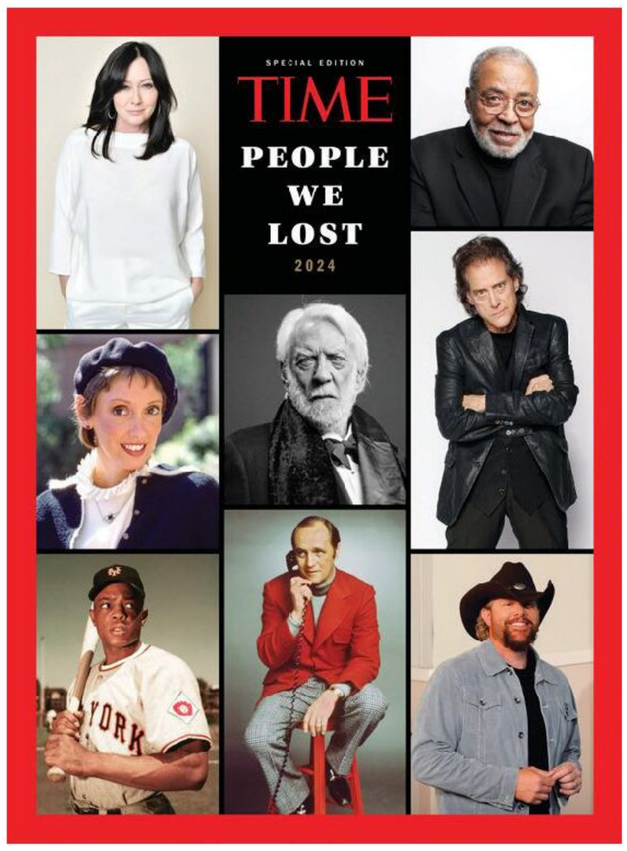

ON THE COVER

Top row: *Shannen Doherty, James Earl Jones,* ***Middle row:*** *Shelley Duvall, Donald Sutherland, Richard Lewis* ***Bottom row:*** *Willie Mays, Bob Newhart, Toby Keith*

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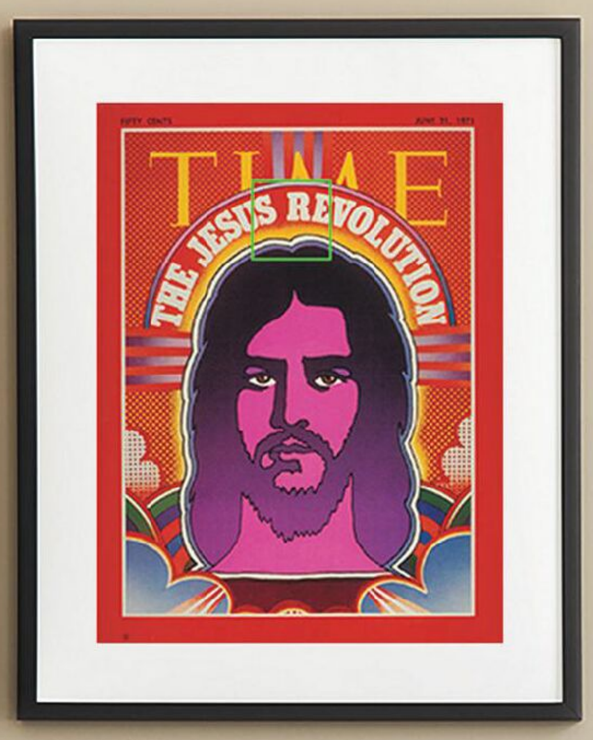

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